Witch

6

Will Irma Taranee Cornelia Hay Lin

Part II. Nerissa's Revenge

Volume 3

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

Disney COMICS

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2022 with funding from
Kahle/Austin Foundation

https://archive.org/details/witchnerissasrev0000unse_x1h8

Walla Walla Public Library

W.i.t.c.h.

Will Irma Taranee Cornelia Hay Lin

Part II. Nerissa's Revenge
Volume 3

THIS BOOK HAS BEEN DISCARDED
BY WALLA WALLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

THIS BOOK HAS BEEN DISCARDED
BY WALLA WALLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Part II. Nerissa's Revenge
Volume 3

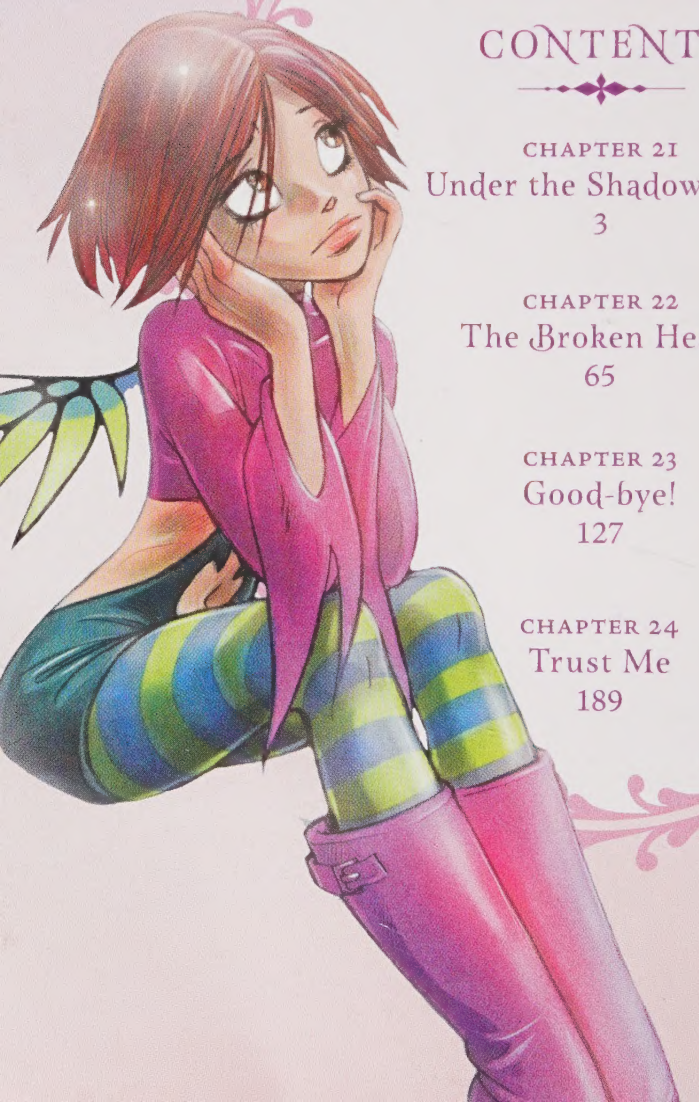
CONTENTS

CHAPTER 21
Under the Shadow Sign
3

CHAPTER 22
The Broken Heart
65

CHAPTER 23
Good-bye!
127

CHAPTER 24
Trust Me
189



21

UNDER THE SHADOW SIGN

"What do you add to me?
What night is my future?"

=SIGH=
HC27 XY
STILL RAINING?
IT'S BEEN RAINING FOR DAYS. I HATE THIS TIME OF YEAR!
IT'LL STOP... IT ALWAYS DOES.
RAIN AND PEARLS OF WISDOM. TODAY'S GONNA BE SPIFFYLICIOUS!

WILL, TIME TO STOP HIBERNATING. YOUR FEVER'S GONE, SO YOUR FRIENDS WON'T CATCH ANYTHING OFF YOU NOW. C'MON, THEY'RE WAITING IN THE KITCHEN.
CAN I TRUST YOU WITH MY SICK PUPPY? I NEED TO DO SOME SHOPPING, AND IT'S NEARLY CLOSING TIME.
HI, ZOMBIE!
ARE YOU DONE PRETENDING TO BE ILL?
WILL, TALK TO YOUR FRIENDS. A NICE CHAT WILL HELP YOU GET YOUR STRENGTH BACK.
MOM, I...
NO WORRIES, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF WILL. ENJOY YOUR SHOPPING, MA'AM!
DEVIOUS DAUGHTER, ANXIOUS MOM. WHAT A PAIR! NOW, OUT WITH IT. THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH YOU..WHAT'S GOING ON?
CLOK

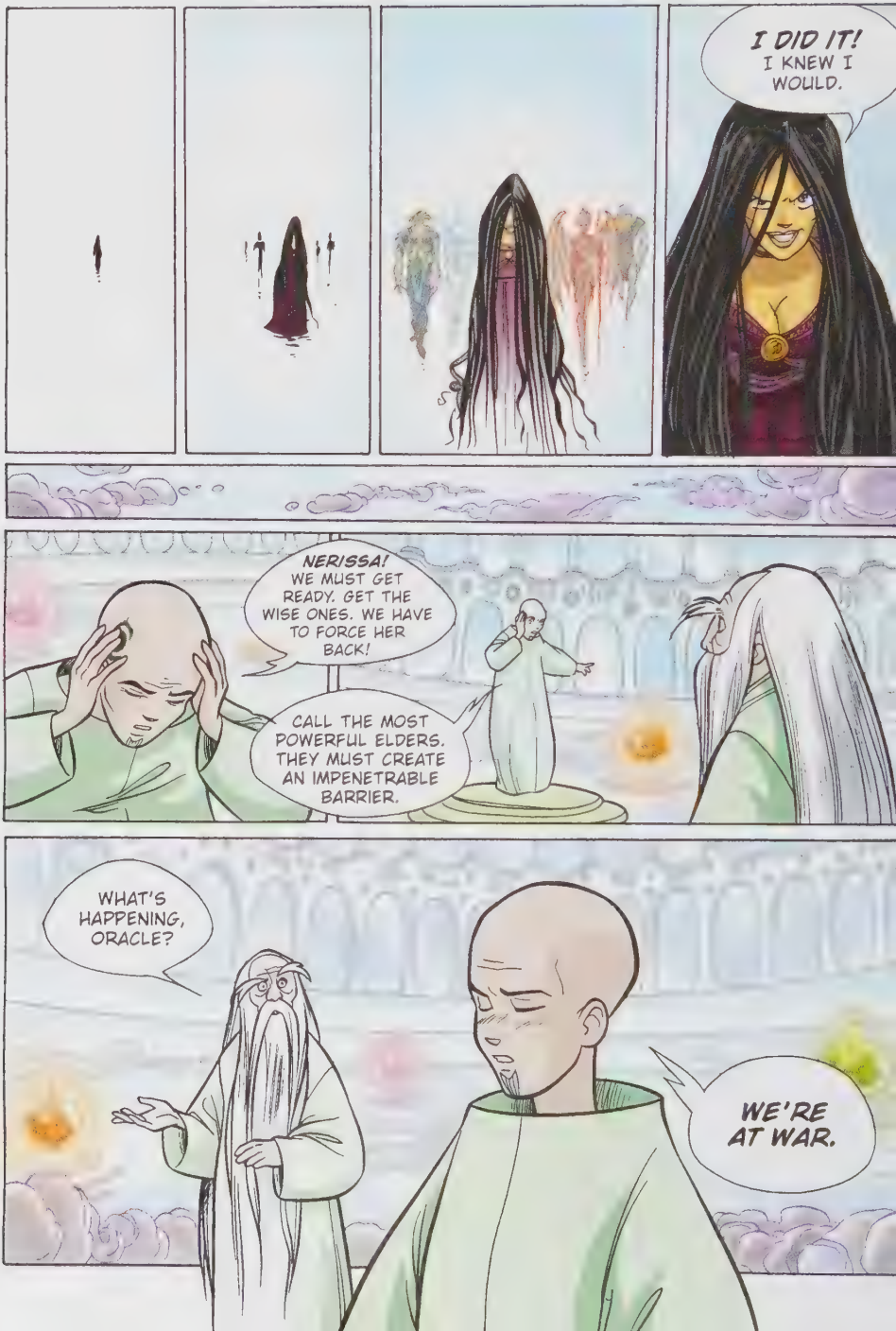
I FAILED AGAIN... I HANDED NERISSA THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR AND HALVED OUR POWERS AT THE SAME TIME.* I'M A WALKING DISASTER.
*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #20
IT'S TIME YOU ADMIT THAT I RUINED EVERYTHING. WE HAVE NO HOPE, NO FUTURE!
MAYBE GRANDMA CAN HELP...
NO HEART, NO KANDRAKAR. THE ORACLE WILL HAVE TO DO WITHOUT US FOR A WHILE. OUCH!
Stop it!
I KNOW, I KNOW...
ENOUGH!
WE GOT INTO THIS TOGETHER, AND TOGETHER WE'LL SORT IT OUT!
ANY IDEAS?

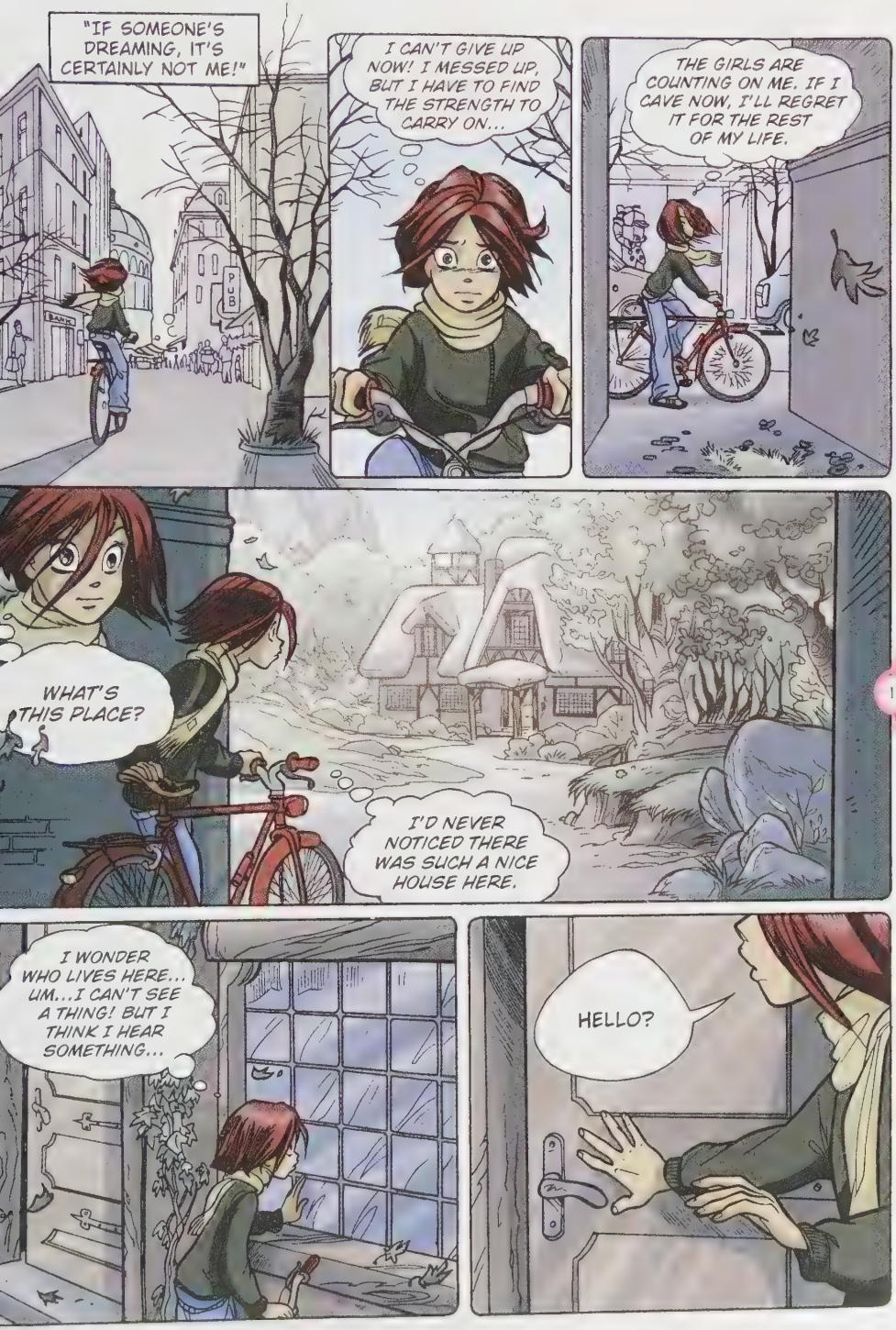
NERISSA'S LAIR IN MOUNT THANOS...
KANDRAKAR...
I'LL TAKE YOU TO A PLACE I WAS FORCED TO ABANDON A LONG TIME AGO.
THEY SAY TIME HEALS ALL WOUNDS.
BUT ETERNITY'S NOT ENOUGH TO HEAL THIS ONE!
KR-KR
I'LL RAZE THE FORTRESS TO THE GROUND AND DRAG THE ORACLE AND THE CONGREGATION THROUGH THE DIRT!
AND YOU'LL HELP ME, WON'T YOU?
AS ALWAYS, MISTRESS.

ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL?
ITS POWER WILL TAKE US BEYOND THIS BARRIER!
"TO THE FORTRESS!"
KA-KRACK
KA-BOOM
KA-KRACK
THE MAGICAL DIMENSION REBELS AGAINST ME, BUT IN VAIN.
I'M THE QUEEN OF ALL ELEMENTS... BECAUSE NOW THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR IS MINE!

MMMHPH...
...YOU CAN'T KILL ME AGAIN!
I'M BURNING!
HELP ME, ENCHANTED HEART!

STAY AWAY FROM THE FLAMES, MISTRESS!
A LITTLE HOT AIR WON'T STOP SOMEONE WHO'S SUFFERED FOR AN ETERNITY!
FOLLOW ME. NOTHING CAN STOP US!
KA-KRAK
NERISSA CROSSED THE THRESHOLD...


I DID IT!
I KNEW I WOULD.
NERISSA! WE MUST GET READY. GET THE WISE ONES. WE HAVE TO FORCE HER BACK!
CALL THE MOST POWERFUL ELDERS. THEY MUST CREATE AN IMPENETRABLE BARRIER.
WHAT'S HAPPENING, ORACLE?
WE'RE AT WAR.

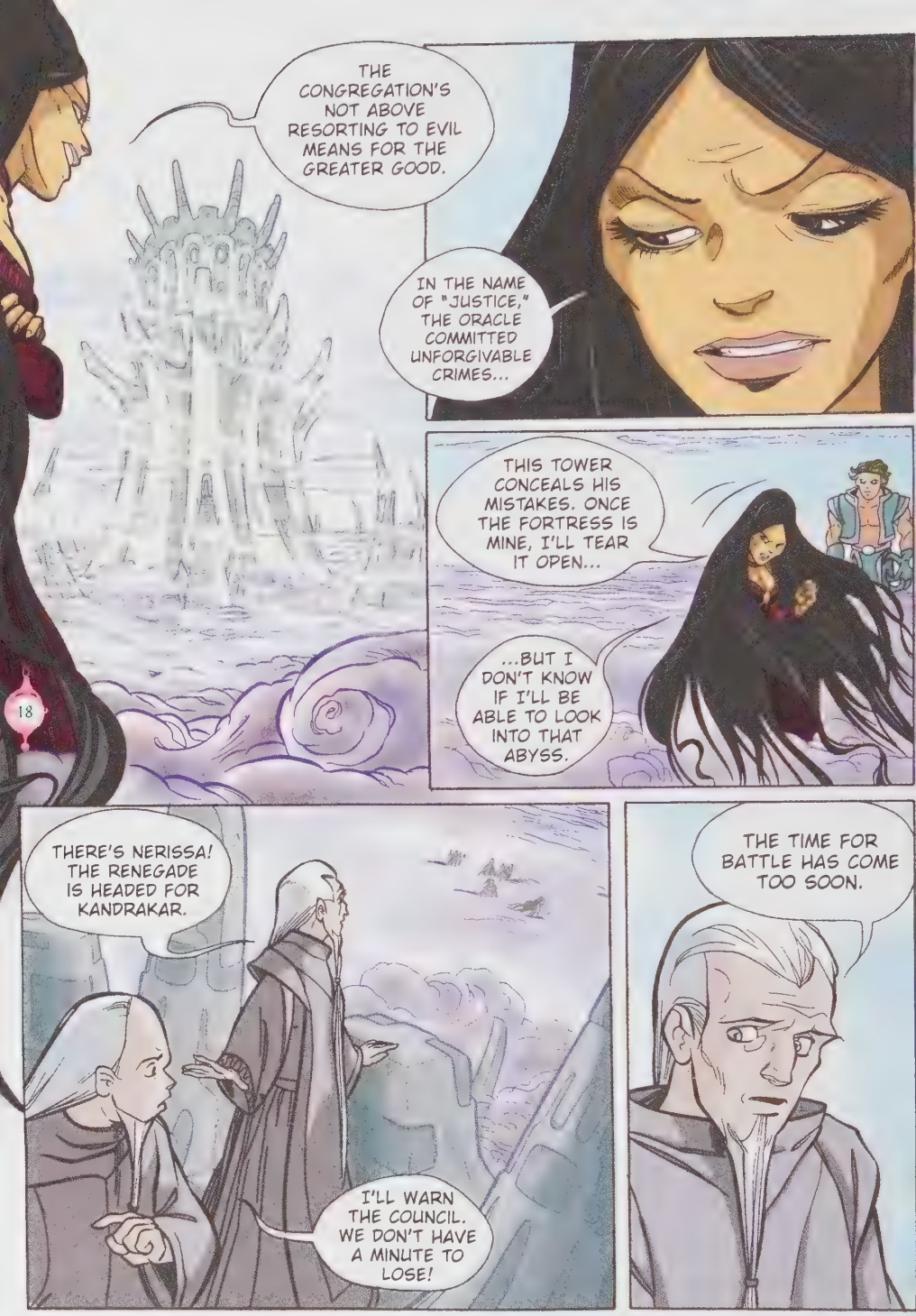

"IF SOMEONE'S DREAMING, IT'S CERTAINLY NOT ME!"
I CAN'T GIVE UP NOW! I MESSED UP, BUT I HAVE TO FIND THE STRENGTH TO CARRY ON...
THE GIRLS ARE COUNTING ON ME. IF I CAVE NOW, I'LL REGRET IT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
WHAT'S THIS PLACE?
I'D NEVER NOTICED THERE WAS SUCH A NICE HOUSE HERE.
I WONDER WHO LIVES HERE... UM... I CAN'T SEE A THING! BUT I THINK I HEAR SOMETHING...
HELLO?

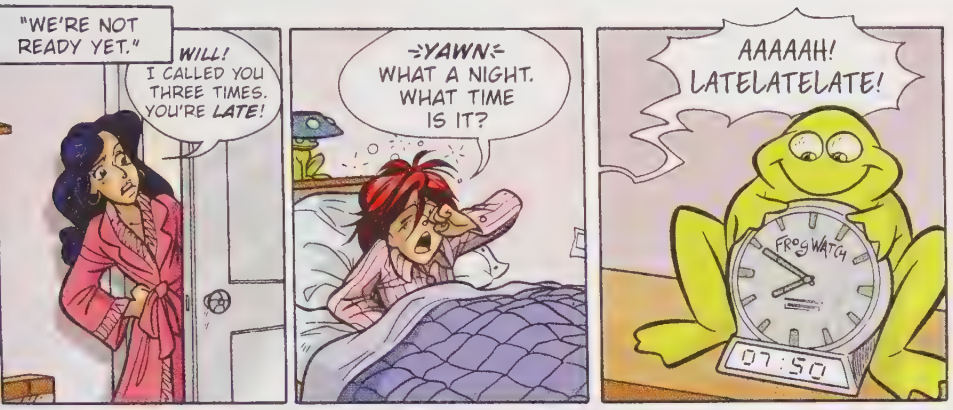
ANYONE HOME?
OH, SOMEONE LEFT THEIR BOOK BEHIND...
IS... IS THIS A JOKE?
Will's Sad Destiny
YOU'RE FINALLY HERE, WILL. WE WERE GETTING BORED.
SO, ADMITTING DEFEAT? WISE DECISION!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
!!!

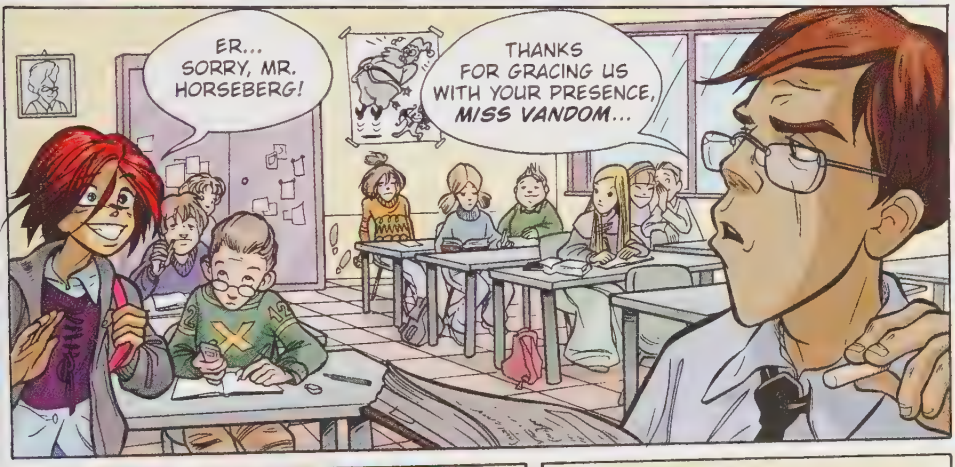
HEY! WATCH IT!
THUMP
I'M SICK OF YOU PUSHING ME AROUND.
NERISSA! THIS...THIS IS ANOTHER NIGHTMARE, RIGHT?
I CAME TO THANK YOU. I COULD NEVER HAVE DEFEATED YOU WITHOUT YOUR COOPERATION!
YOU MAY BE THE WORST GUARDIAN TO EVER SET FOOT IN KANDRAKAR, BUT YOU'RE SMART!
LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE A WRECK. ARE YOU READY TO WITNESS MY TRIUMPH?

YOU TALK TOO MUCH, WITCH. TRUTH IS, YOU'RE SCARED YOU'LL LOSE. OTHERWISE, WHY BOTHER TO COME SEE ME AGAIN?
YOU BELONG TO THE PAST...
...ONLY YOU DON'T KNOW IT YET. YOU CAN'T EVEN...
...KEEP ME IN YOUR DREAM!
NOOO! SHE MANAGED TO ESCAPE!
THAT'S ENOUGH. I'VE BEEN TOO SOFT WITH WILL AND HER FRIENDS. IF THEY CROSS MY PATH AGAIN...KHOR, SHOW NO MERCY!
RRRRR....

THEIR MARCH TOWARD THE FORTRESS CONTINUES, UNRELENTING...
I REMEMBER THIS PLACE. THE TOWER OF MISTS!
THOSE HYPOCRITES IN THE CONGREGATION DON'T HAVE THE GUTS TO CALL IT BY ITS REAL NAME, BUT THAT'S KANDRAKAR'S PRISON.
LOCKS AND CHAINS. THEN THIS PEACEFUL REALM ISN'T IMMUNE FROM HATRED EITHER.
DON'T TALK ABOUT PEACE, SHAGON. THERE'S NONE HERE. YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW MANY SECRETS LIE WITHIN THESE WALLS.


THE CONGREGATION'S NOT ABOVE RESORTING TO EVIL MEANS FOR THE GREATER GOOD.
IN THE NAME OF "JUSTICE," THE ORACLE COMMITTED UNFORGIVABLE CRIMES...
THIS TOWER CONCEALS HIS MISTAKES. ONCE THE FORTRESS IS MINE, I'LL TEAR IT OPEN...
...BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL BE ABLE TO LOOK INTO THAT ABYSS.
THERE'S NERISSA! THE RENEGADE IS HEADED FOR KANDRAKAR.
I'LL WARN THE COUNCIL. WE DON'T HAVE A MINUTE TO LOSE!
THE TIME FOR BATTLE HAS COME TOO SOON.

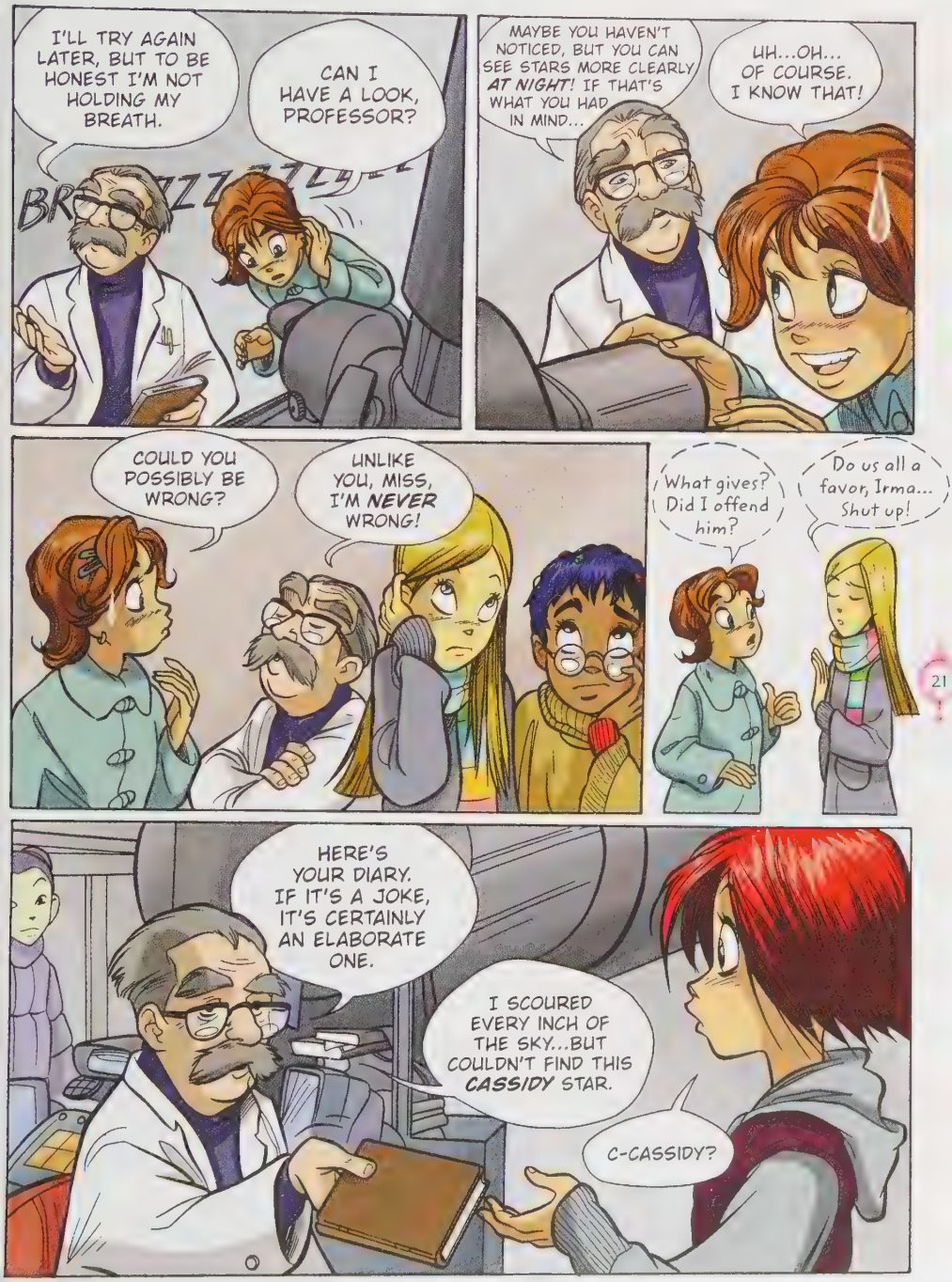

"WE'RE NOT READY YET."
WILL! I CALLED YOU THREE TIMES. YOU'RE LATE!
=YAWN= WHAT A NIGHT. WHAT TIME IS IT?
AAAAAH! LATELATELATE!
FROG WATCH
07:50


ER... SORRY, MR. HORSEBERG!
THANKS FOR GRACING US WITH YOUR PRESENCE, MISS VANDOM...

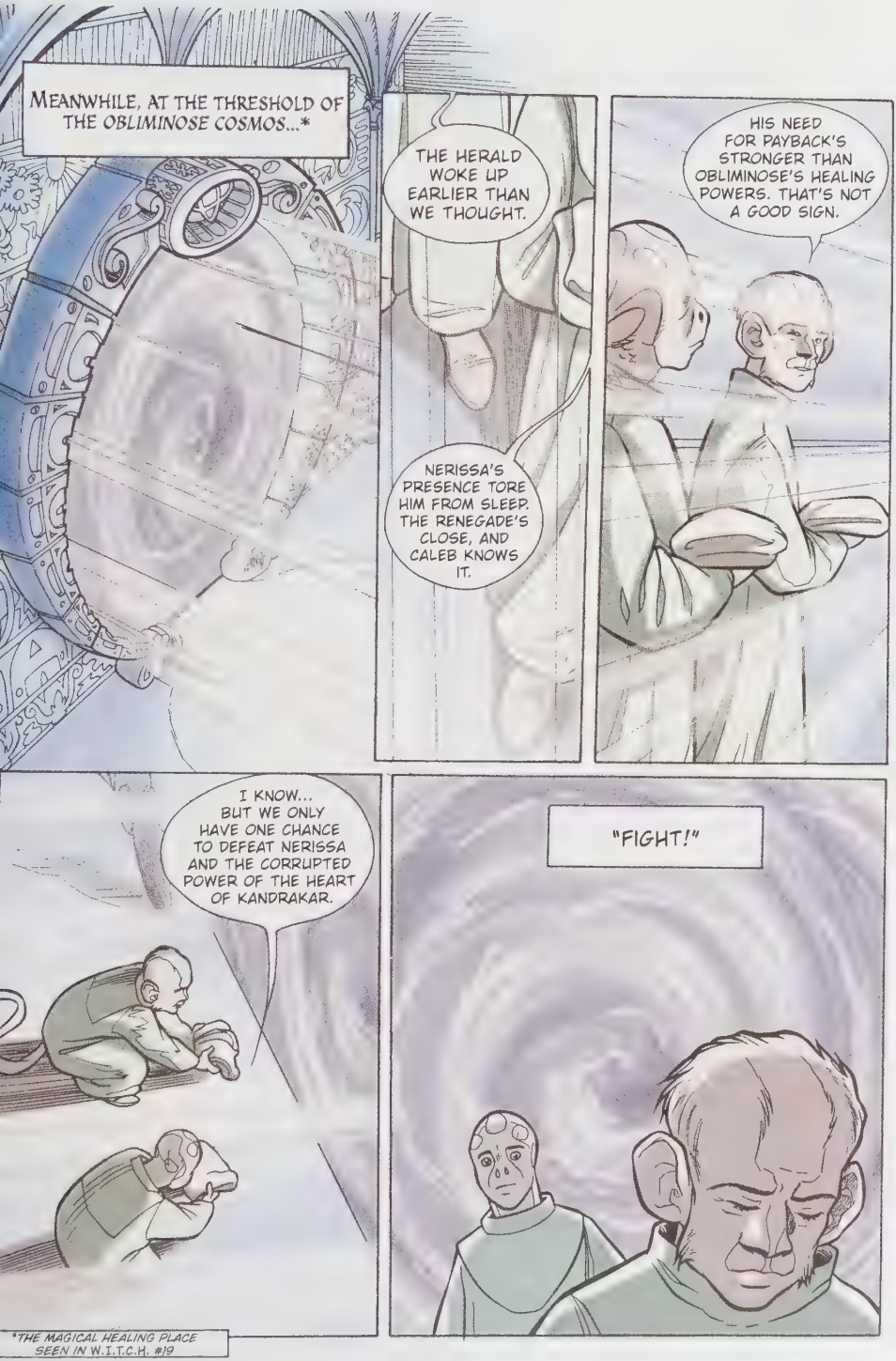
Another nightmare?
Nerissa again!

Eric wants to see us at the observatory about Halinor's diary. He's got news.
And straighten your collar!

SO, AFTER CLASS...
I HAVEN'T TRANSLATED RUNES SINCE UNIVERSITY, BUT I WAS ABLE TO SOLVE YOUR RIDDLE.
PUT US OUT OF OUR MISERY, PROFESSOR LYNDON.
IF YOU WERE HOPING TO FIND SHOCKING SECRETS, YOU'LL BE DISAPPOINTED. THIS DIARY, METICULOUS AS IT IS, IS FULL OF NONSENSE.
IT CONTAINS A SERIES OF ASTRONOMICAL CALCULATIONS FROM OVER 150 YEARS AGO.
...AND THE COORDINATES OF AN UNKNOWN CONSTELLATION.
HMM... I WOULD HAVE USED MORE TECHNICAL LANGUAGE TO SAY THE SAME THING, BUT MY IMPATIENT GRANDSON JUMPED THE GUN.
I CALCULATED EVERY POSSIBLE VARIATION BUT FOUND NOTHING IN THAT PATCH OF SKY.
OPEN
CLICK
BRZZZZZZ

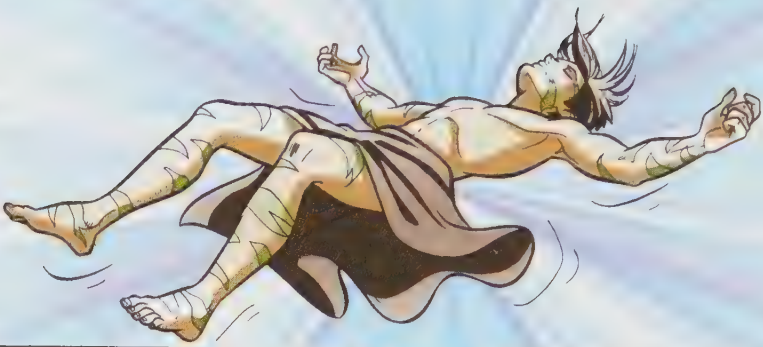

I'LL TRY AGAIN LATER, BUT TO BE HONEST I'M NOT HOLDING MY BREATH.
CAN I HAVE A LOOK, PROFESSOR?
BR
MAYBE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, BUT YOU CAN SEE STARS MORE CLEARLY AT NIGHT! IF THAT'S WHAT YOU HAD IN MIND...
UH...OH... OF COURSE. I KNOW THAT!
COULD YOU POSSIBLY BE WRONG?
UNLIKE YOU, MISS, I'M NEVER WRONG!
What gives? Did I offend him?
Do us all a favor, Irma... Shut up!
HERE'S YOUR DIARY. IF IT'S A JOKE, IT'S CERTAINLY AN ELABORATE ONE.
I SCOURED EVERY INCH OF THE SKY...BUT COULDN'T FIND THIS CASSIDY STAR.
C-CASSIDY?

YES, I ALMOST FORGOT. CASSIDY! THAT'S THE MYSTERIOUS STAR MENTIONED IN THE DIARY.
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, PROFESSOR LYNDON.
SORRY, HAY LIN. I THOUGHT I COULD HELP YOU...
AND YOU DID, ERIC. THANKS AGAIN!
SO? NOTHING TO SAY?
WHAT'S TO SAY? YOU HEARD HIM...
CASSIDY.

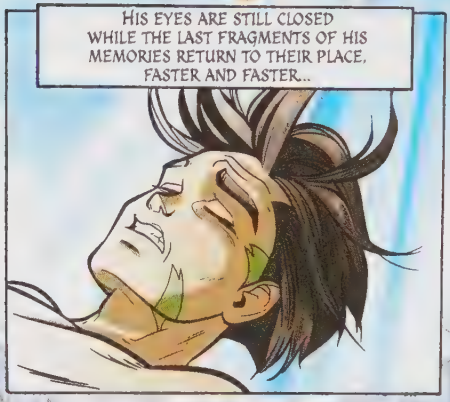


*THE MAGICAL HEALING PLACE SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #19

CALEB'S LONG STRUGGLE IS ALMOST OVER. THE COSMOS OF OBLIMINOSE HEALED HIM, REKINDLING HIS SPARK OF LIFE.

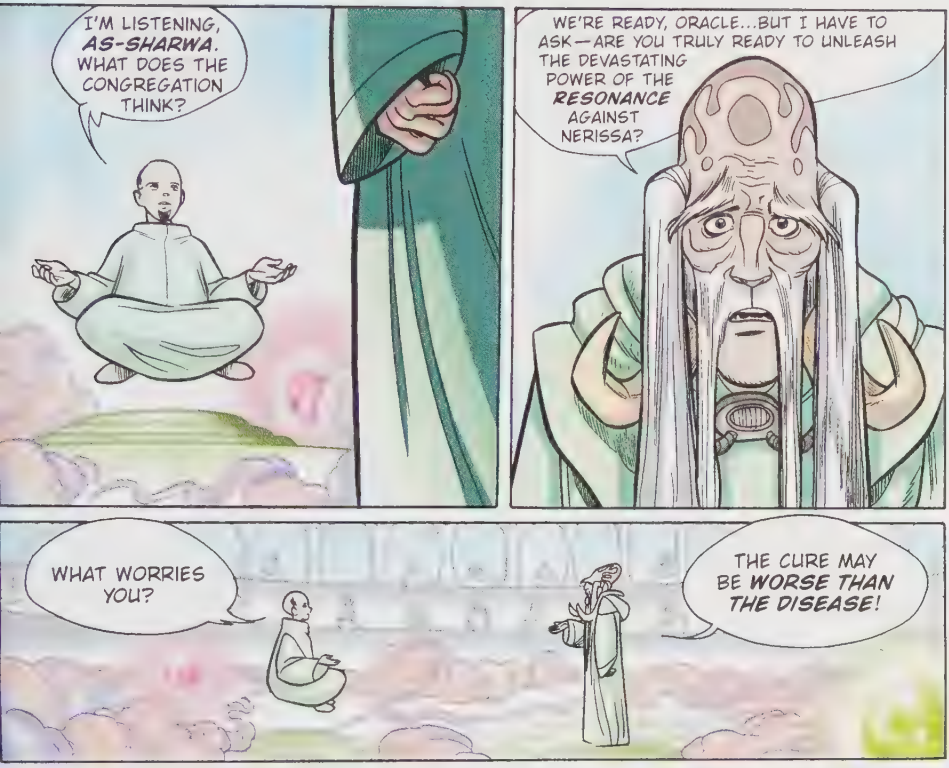


HIS EYES ARE STILL CLOSED WHILE THE LAST FRAGMENTS OF HIS MEMORIES RETURN TO THEIR PLACE, FASTER AND FASTER...



...BECAUSE THE HERALD OF KANDRAKAR CAN DELAY NO LONGER.

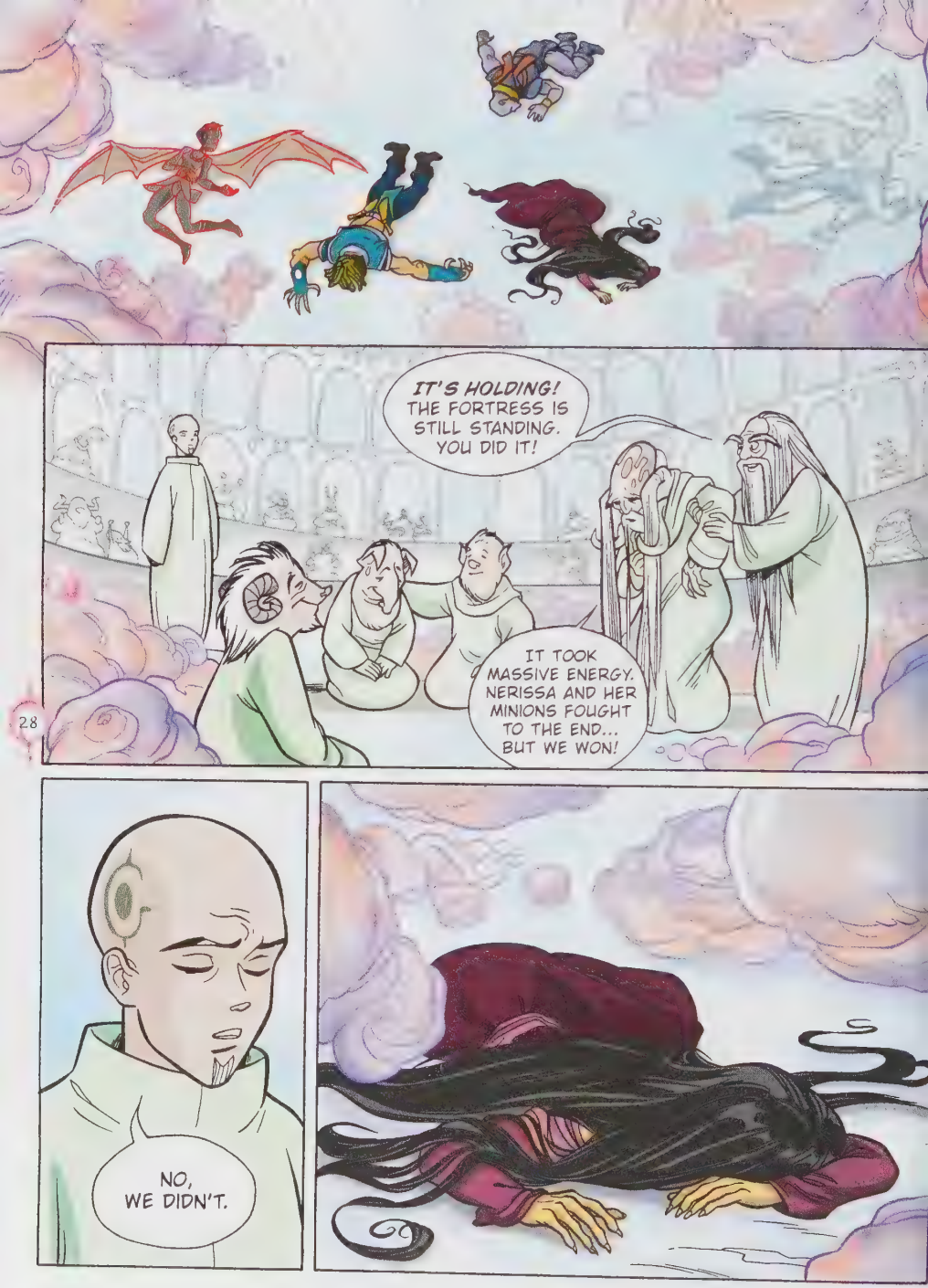
THEY'RE OUT OF TIME.


I'M LISTENING, AS-SHARWA. WHAT DOES THE CONGREGATION THINK?
WE'RE READY, ORACLE...BUT I HAVE TO ASK—ARE YOU TRULY READY TO UNLEASH THE DEVASTATING POWER OF THE RESONANCE AGAINST NERISSA?
WHAT WORRIES YOU?
THE CURE MAY BE WORSE THAN THE DISEASE!

IT COULD BE CATASTROPHIC. THE RESONANCE FREQUENCIES COULD SHATTER THE FORTRESS ITSELF...
SHOULD THAT HAPPEN, NERISSA WILL BE THE LEAST OF OUR PROBLEMS!

MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION, HEAR ME OUT. I'M AWARE OF THE RISK I'M ASKING YOU TO TAKE...
...BUT ONCE AGAIN, I BEG YOU TO TRUST ME.
AS NERISSA NEARS OUR GATES, UNLEASHING THE RESONANCE IS OUR ONLY HOPE.
SO HAVE NO FEAR AND FOCUS. DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER.
KANDRAKAR. WE'RE FINALLY HERE...
WHAT'S... WHAT'S THIS VIBRATION?

RRARGH!
SNAP
CRAK
CURSE... THEM!
STAK!
STUMPF


IT'S HOLDING! THE FORTRESS IS STILL STANDING. YOU DID IT!
IT TOOK MASSIVE ENERGY. NERISSA AND HER MINIONS FOUGHT TO THE END... BUT WE WON!
NO, WE DIDN'T.

SURPRISE!
NERISSA'S STILL ALIVE!
CALEB! WHAT AWOKE YOU FROM OBLIMINOSE? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I WANNA HELP.
I'M HEALED, ORACLE, AND I'LL PROVE IT.
THAT IS VERY GENEROUS, BUT YOU ARE NOT READY. YOU ARE STILL TOO WEAK TO FACE NERISSA AND HER CREATURES.

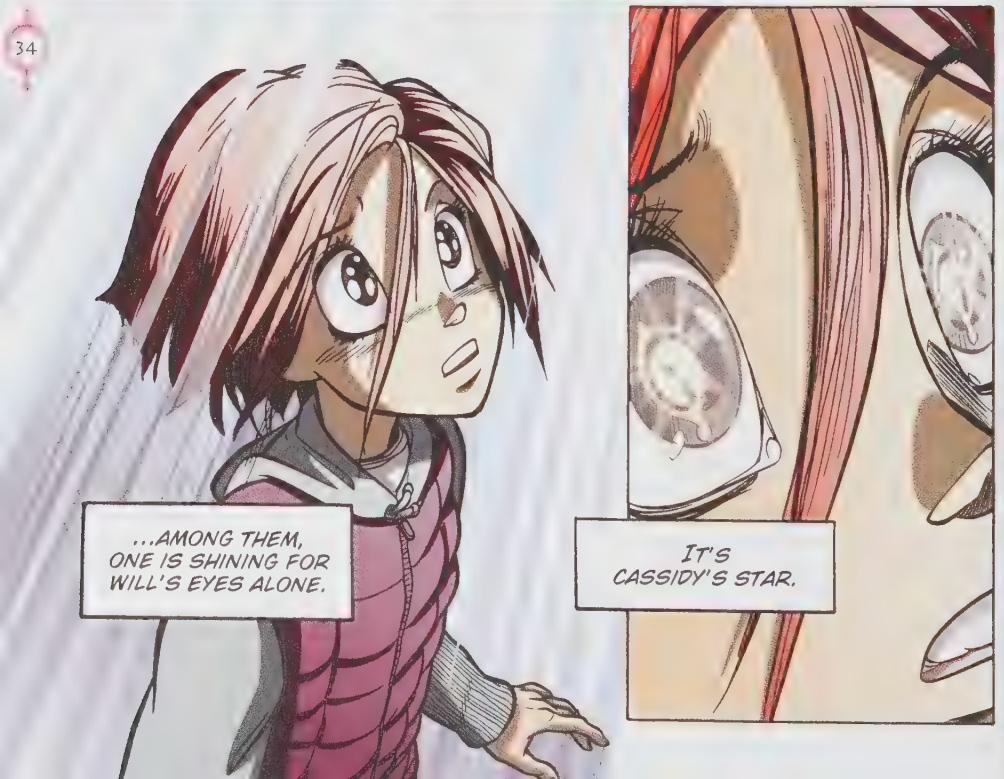
"NERISSA WON'T SET FOOT IN HERE!"
GREEEEEEEAK
Come on in, but don't break anything, or tomorrow they'll blame me!
DON'T WORRY, LOCK.
TALKING TO MACHINES... I'LL NEVER GET USED TO THAT.
ARE YOU KIDDING? THAT'S MY FAVORITE POWER.
IT'S A BIT LATE TO TURN BACK, TARANEE. WE'RE ALREADY IN!
GUYS, YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
FIRST A MUSEUM, NOW AN OBSERVATORY! WE SHOULD TRY SNEAKING INTO A BANK NEXT.
LET'S AVOID MY FATHER'S, THOUGH!
I JUST HOPE OUR ASTRAL DROPS BEHAVE, OR OUR PARENTS WILL GET REAL MAD!
NO WORRIES. OUR DOUBLES ARE GREAT.

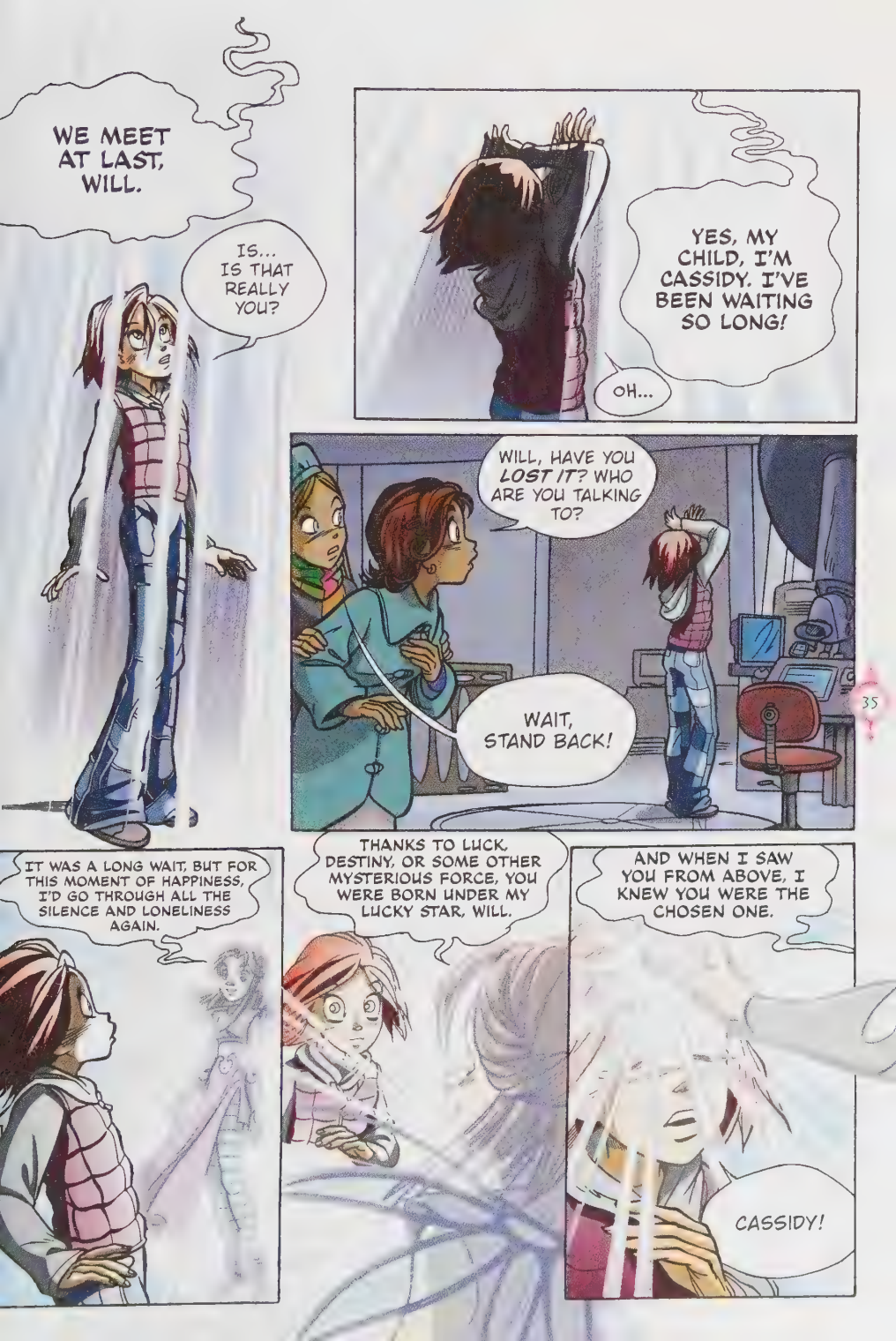
OPEN
CLIC
NOW, LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE SKY. I HOPE THE TELESCOPE'S STILL LOCKED ON PROFESSOR LYNDON'S COORDINATES!
BRZ
WHAT ARE YOU HOPING TO FIND, WILL?
SPEAKING IN RIDDLES NOW? YOU SOUND LIKE THE ORACLE!
JUST BECAUSE HE DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING DOESN'T MEAN NOTHING'S THERE.
IT'S JUST AN IDEA, BUT GIVEN THE SITUATION, I THINK IT'S WORTH A TRY.
ALL I'M SAYING IS THE MESSAGE WAS FOR US, NOT SOMEONE ELSE. THE NAME CASSIDY MEANS NOTHING TO PROFESSOR LYNDON.
BUT TO US IT DOES. IT'S DIFFERENT.

SO?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, GUYS...
WHAT CAN YOU SEE?
"WHAT CAN YOU SEE?"
UHHHN!
WHAT'S GOING ON, NERISSA?
EVEN WITHOUT THEIR GREATEST POWER, THE GUARDIANS WON'T GIVE UP...
32
WHY? YOU HAVE THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR, AND THEY'RE A UNIVERSE AWAY!
DON'T QUESTION ME, SHAGON. THE GUARDIANS AREN'T DEFEATED YET. I CAN FEEL IT!
I SENSE AN UNFORESEEN THREAT— AN UNEXPECTED TURN OF EVENTS, BUT I WON'T BE STOPPED NOW.
KHOR!

"YOU'RE ON."
IT'S YOUR TURN!
HMMM...
SO?
SORRY, I CAN'T SEE IT EITHER.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. I'M NOT MAKING IT UP! IT'S THERE!
MAYBE WE SHOULD GO HOME, WILL. IT'S LATE.
YOU'RE FREE TO GO. I'LL STAY THE WHOLE NIGHT IF I NEED TO...
"...BUT I WON'T GIVE UP NOW!"
MEANWHILE...

THE COLD NIGHT AIR MAKES EVERYTHING CRISPER. THE MOONLIGHT IS ALMOST BLINDING.
FROM HEATHERFIELD OBSERVATORY, THE MOON SEEMS CLOSE ENOUGH TO TOUCH.
EVEN THE STARS HAVE NEVER SEEMED SO NEAR...

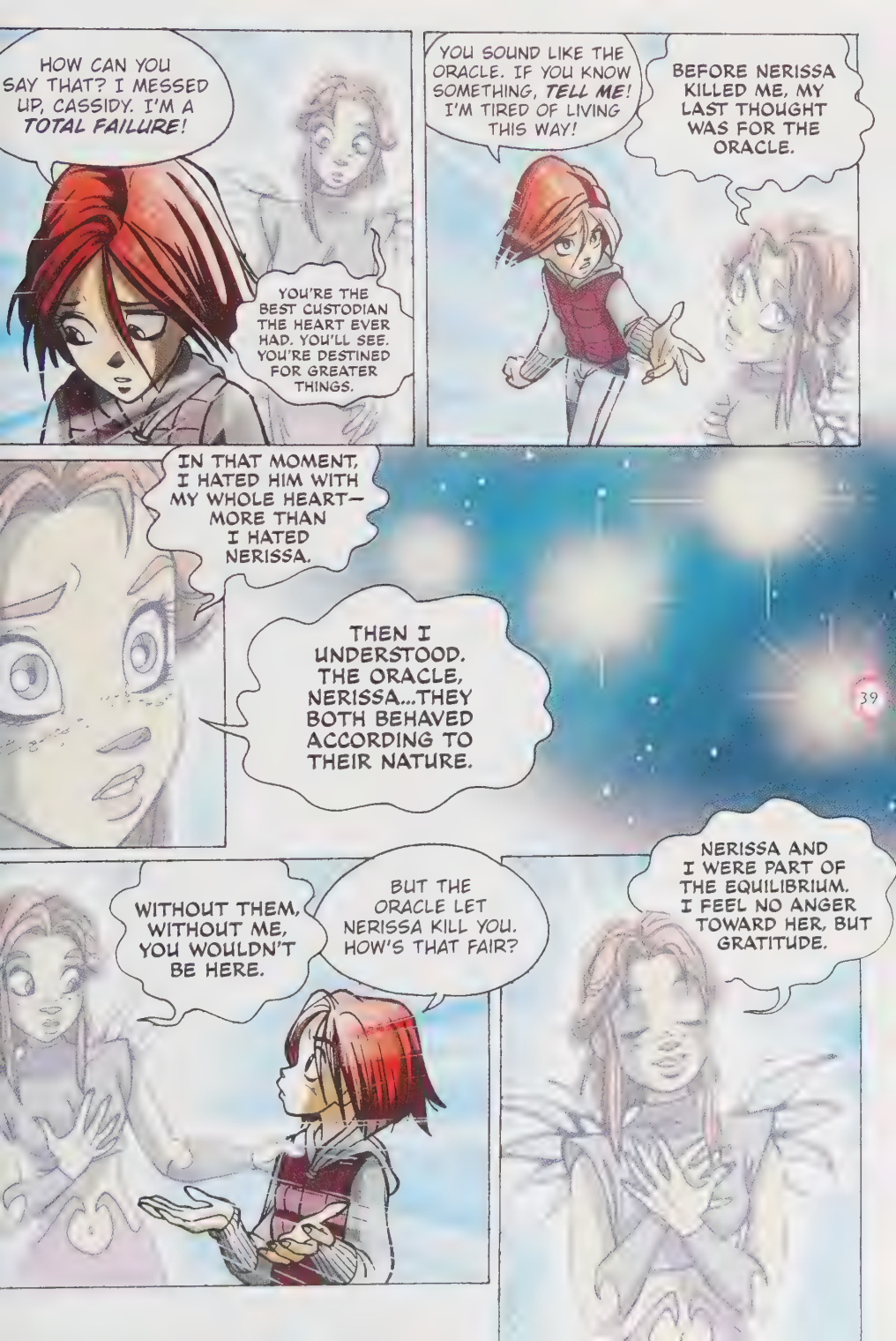

...AMONG THEM, ONE IS SHINING FOR WILL'S EYES ALONE.
IT'S CASSIDY'S STAR.

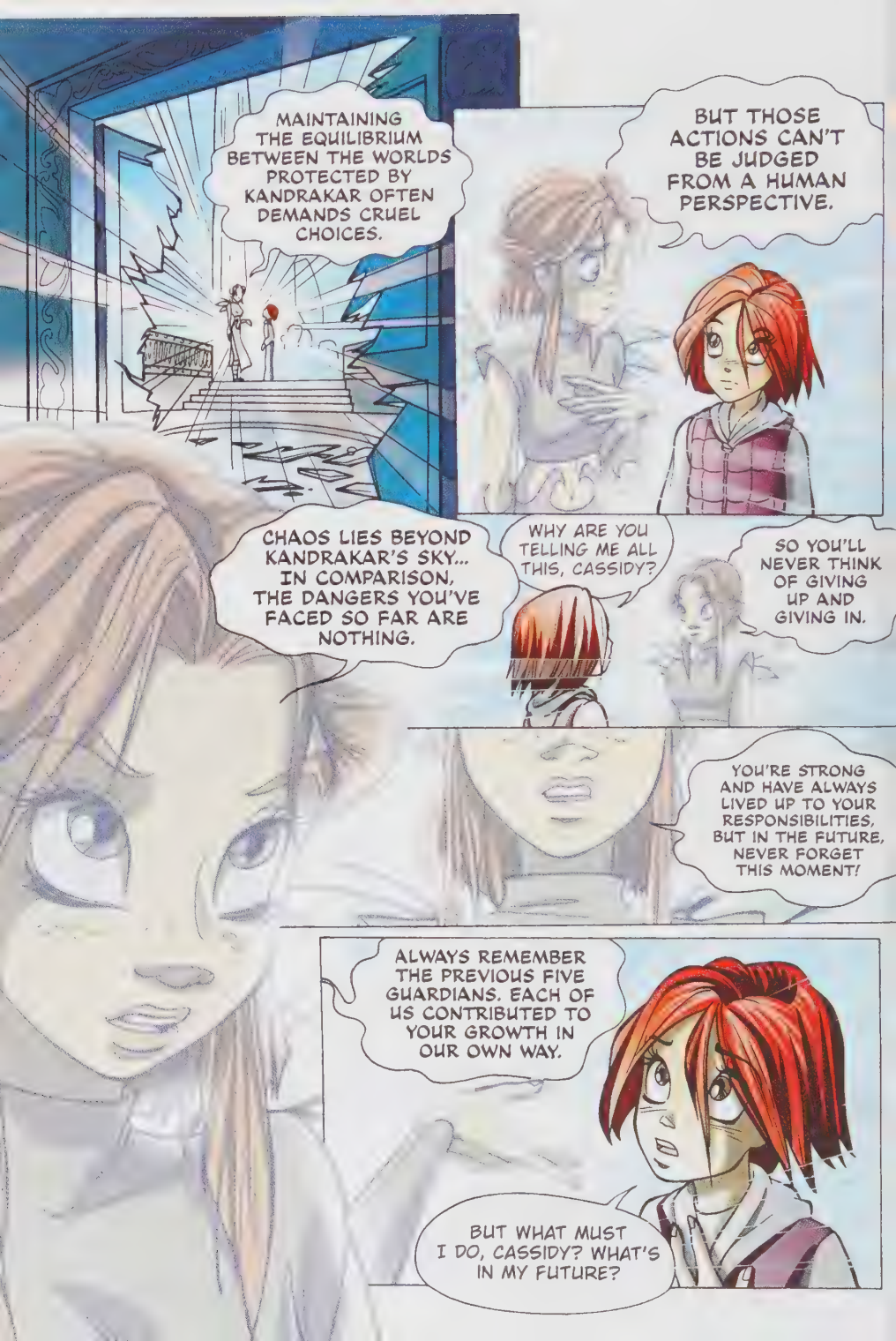

WE MEET AT LAST, WILL.
IS... IS THAT REALLY YOU?
YES, MY CHILD, I'M CASSIDY. I'VE BEEN WAITING SO LONG!
OH...
WILL, HAVE YOU LOST IT? WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
WAIT, STAND BACK!
IT WAS A LONG WAIT, BUT FOR THIS MOMENT OF HAPPINESS, I'D GO THROUGH ALL THE SILENCE AND LONELINESS AGAIN.
THANKS TO LUCK, DESTINY, OR SOME OTHER MYSTERIOUS FORCE, YOU WERE BORN UNDER MY LUCKY STAR, WILL.
AND WHEN I SAW YOU FROM ABOVE, I KNEW YOU WERE THE CHOSEN ONE.
CASSIDY!

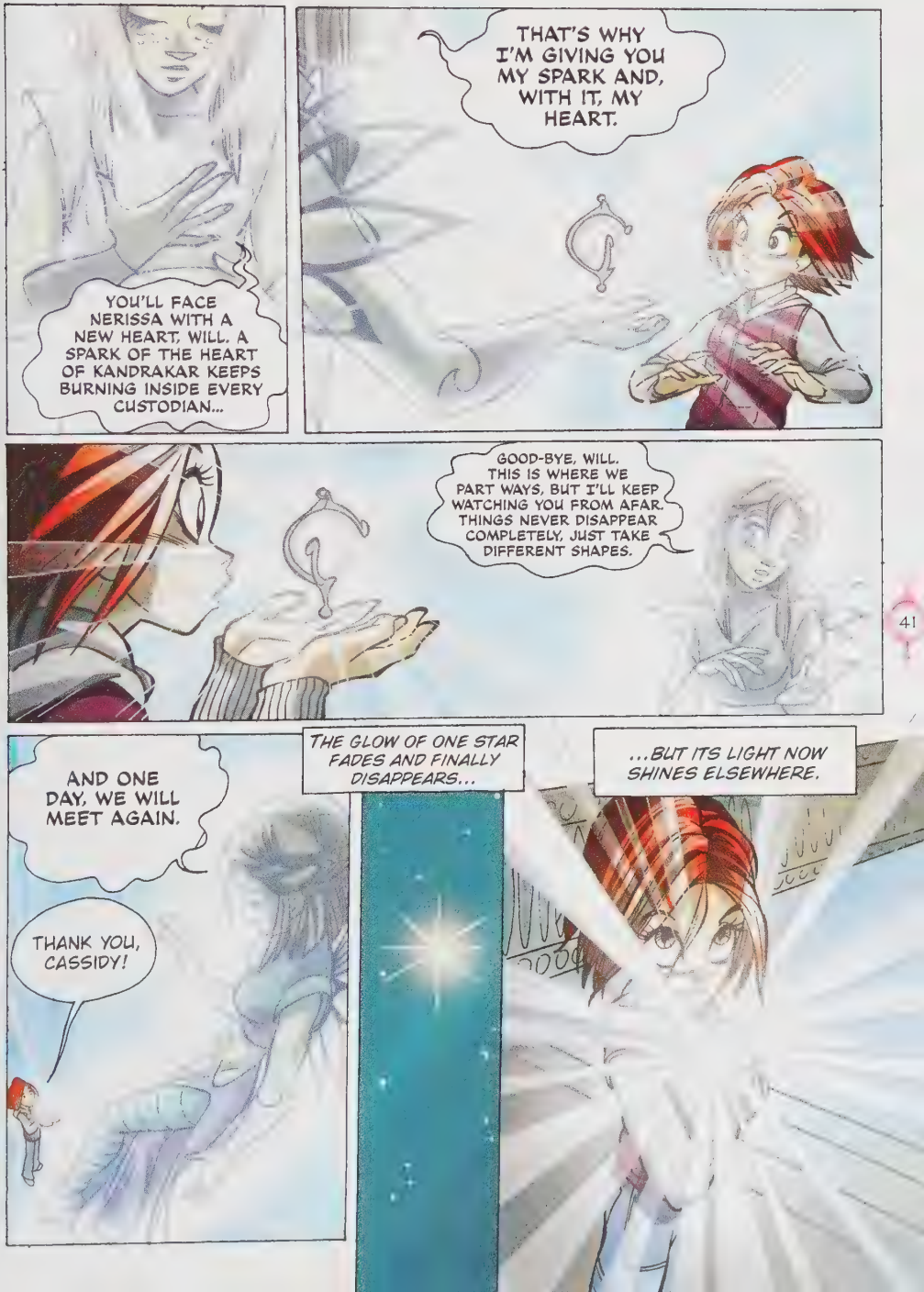
YOU HEAR THAT? SHE'S TALKING TO CASSIDY.
SHE'S CRYING!
SO AM I...
DON'T YOU GET IT? THERE'S A SPIRIT HERE.
KRA-KRUMB
RRRRRRHHHHH...
AND NOW OUR FRIEND'S AT THE DOOR.
MAN, WHAT A NIGHT!
YES, KHOR, I CAN SEE THEM THROUGH YOUR EYES. I CAN FEEL THEIR FEAR!

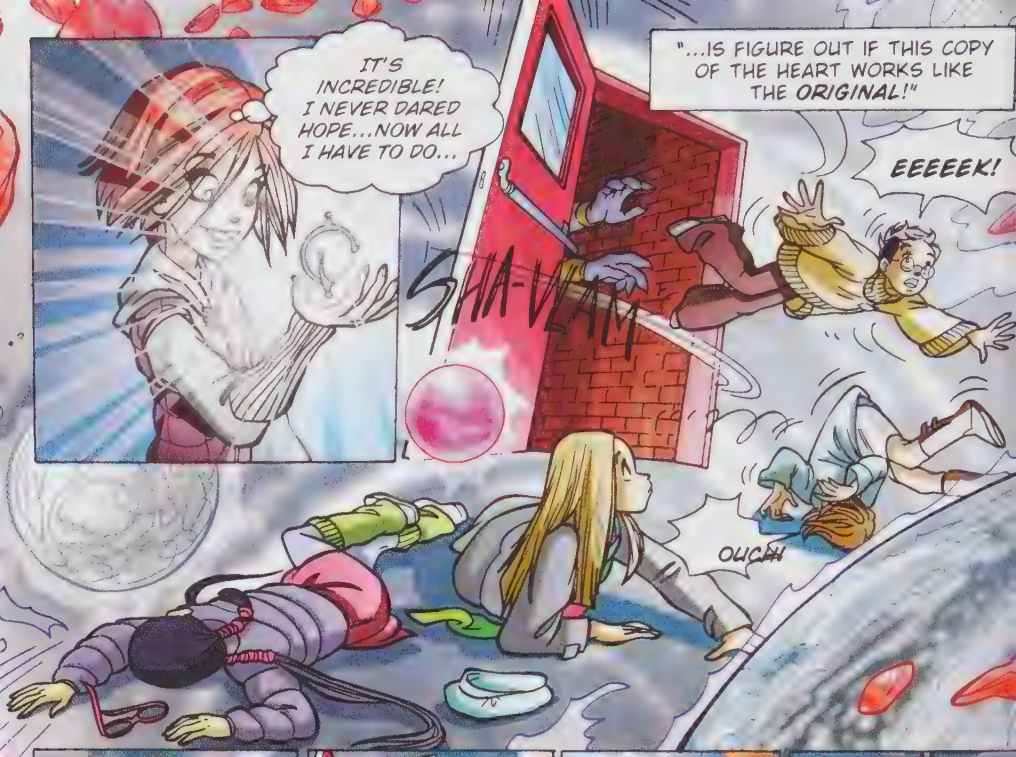
DESTROY THEM, KHOR. NOW!
FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION, NERISSA'S MERCILESS COMMAND REACHES HER SERVANT.
IT'S TIME FOR THE VOICELESS MONSTER TO LET HIS BLADES DO THE TALKING.
SZING
WHAT NOW? WITHOUT THE HEART, WE'RE OUT OF OPTIONS!
WE CAN'T TRANSFORM!
WE MAY BE WEAK, BUT WE'VE STILL GOT OUR POWERS!
SHA-ZZZRAK
RRRRRARGH!
WE HAVE TO KEEP HIM AWAY FROM WILL. HE MUSTN'T BREAK HER CONNECTION WITH CASSIDY!
LET'S GO!
WANNA TAKE A HIKE, DUDE?
KABOO
RRRRRAAAAW!

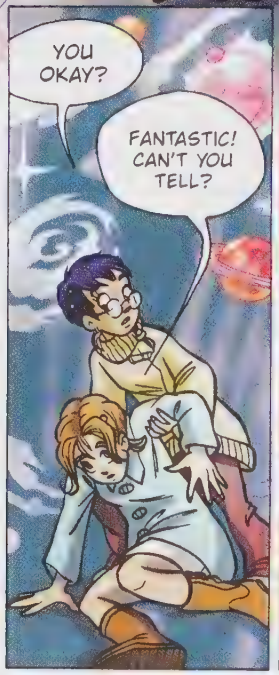
WHAT'S GOING ON?
IT'S ALL RIGHT, WILL. NERISSA'S SHADOW TOUCHED US, BUT SHE CAN'T DEFEAT THE POWER OF LIGHT!
OR YOUR BRAVE FRIENDS, THE GUARDIANS PROTECTING YOU!
LET ME GO, CASSIDY. I HAVE TO HELP THEM!
NO, WILL. YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME. OUR CONNECTION WON'T LAST MUCH LONGER...
"YOUR FRIENDS CAN DO THIS WITHOUT YOU. YOU'LL SEE."
WELL DONE DECIPHERING THE DIARY. OUR ENCOUNTER TAKES PLACE AT THE ONLY POSSIBLE TIME.
THE WORST ONE! I LOST THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR, CASSIDY. I GAVE IT TO NERISSA.
THAT CRONE WILL DESTROY THE FORTRESS... AND IT'LL BE MY FAULT.
I KNOW EVERYTHING, WILL... DON'T BLAME YOURSELF.


HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? I MESSED UP, CASSIDY. I'M A TOTAL FAILURE!
YOU'RE THE BEST CUSTODIAN THE HEART EVER HAD. YOU'LL SEE. YOU'RE DESTINED FOR GREATER THINGS.
YOU SOUND LIKE THE ORACLE. IF YOU KNOW SOMETHING, TELL ME! I'M TIRED OF LIVING THIS WAY!
BEFORE NERISSA KILLED ME, MY LAST THOUGHT WAS FOR THE ORACLE.
IN THAT MOMENT, I HATED HIM WITH MY WHOLE HEART— MORE THAN I HATED NERISSA.
THEN I UNDERSTOOD. THE ORACLE, NERISSA...THEY BOTH BEHAVED ACCORDING TO THEIR NATURE.
39
WITHOUT THEM, WITHOUT ME, YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE.
BUT THE ORACLE LET NERISSA KILL YOU. HOW'S THAT FAIR?
NERISSA AND I WERE PART OF THE EQUILIBRIUM. I FEEL NO ANGER TOWARD HER, BUT GRATITUDE.

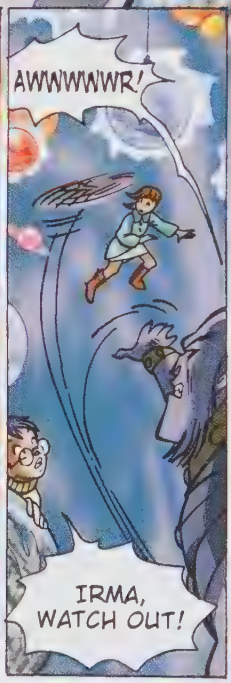

MAINTAINING THE EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN THE WORLDS PROTECTED BY KANDRAKAR OFTEN DEMANDS CRUEL CHOICES.
BUT THOSE ACTIONS CAN'T BE JUDGED FROM A HUMAN PERSPECTIVE.
CHAOS LIES BEYOND KANDRAKAR'S SKY... IN COMPARISON, THE DANGERS YOU'VE FACED SO FAR ARE NOTHING.
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME ALL THIS, CASSIDY?
SO YOU'LL NEVER THINK OF GIVING UP AND GIVING IN.
YOU'RE STRONG AND HAVE ALWAYS LIVED UP TO YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT IN THE FUTURE, NEVER FORGET THIS MOMENT!
ALWAYS REMEMBER THE PREVIOUS FIVE GUARDIANS. EACH OF US CONTRIBUTED TO YOUR GROWTH IN OUR OWN WAY.
BUT WHAT MUST I DO, CASSIDY? WHAT'S IN MY FUTURE?

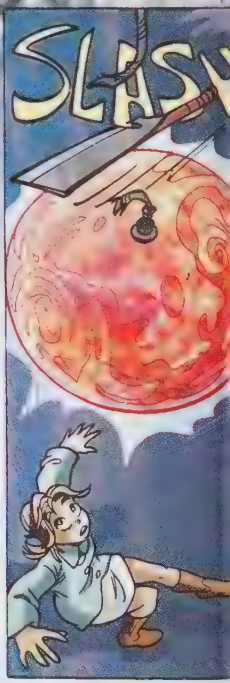

YOU'LL FACE NERISSA WITH A NEW HEART, WILL. A SPARK OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR KEEPS BURNING INSIDE EVERY CUSTODIAN...
THAT'S WHY I'M GIVING YOU MY SPARK AND, WITH IT, MY HEART.
GOOD-BYE, WILL. THIS IS WHERE WE PART WAYS, BUT I'LL KEEP WATCHING YOU FROM AFAR. THINGS NEVER DISAPPEAR COMPLETELY, JUST TAKE DIFFERENT SHAPES.
AND ONE DAY, WE WILL MEET AGAIN.
THANK YOU, CASSIDY!
THE GLOW OF ONE STAR FADES AND FINALLY DISAPPEARS...
...BUT ITS LIGHT NOW SHINES ELSEWHERE.


IT'S INCREDIBLE! I NEVER DARED HOPE...NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO...
"...IS FIGURE OUT IF THIS COPY OF THE HEART WORKS LIKE THE ORIGINAL!"
EEEEEK!
SHA-WAM
OUCH!


YOU OKAY?
FANTASTIC! CAN'T YOU TELL?

NNNNNRRRR...
THINGS CAN ONLY GET BETTER!
LET'S SPLIT UP! HE'S COMING!


AWWWWWR!
IRMA, WATCH OUT!


SLASH

RA-BRANG
!
YOU... YOU ALL RIGHT?
I TH-THINK SO...I HURT ALL OVER, BUT I DON'T THINK ANYTHING'S BROKEN.
THEN GET UP, AND LET'S GO! HIS FIGHT ISN'T OVER YET.
I'D BE HAPPY WITH A DRAW!
RAAAARGH!
KHOR'S TOO STRONG FOR OUR WEAKENED POWERS!
THAT MONSTER'S TRYING TO INTIMIDATE US.
AND HE'S DOING A GOOD JOB!
HERE HE COMES AGAIN!
AH!
CLUMP

HAY HAY!
STAY BACK, GUYS!
RAAAAH!
UNNNNGH...
I CAN'T JUST SIT AND WATCH. LET GO, YOU BRUTE!
KRAZZAK
DIDN'T YOU HEAR MY FRIEND, KHOR?
LET GOOOOO!
TUMP TUMP TUMP
W-WILL!
JUST IN TIME, HUH?
YOU... YOU TRANSFORMED! THEN...YOU GOT THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR BACK!
WELL... SOMETHING LIKE THAT! IT'S A PRESENT FROM CASSIDY.

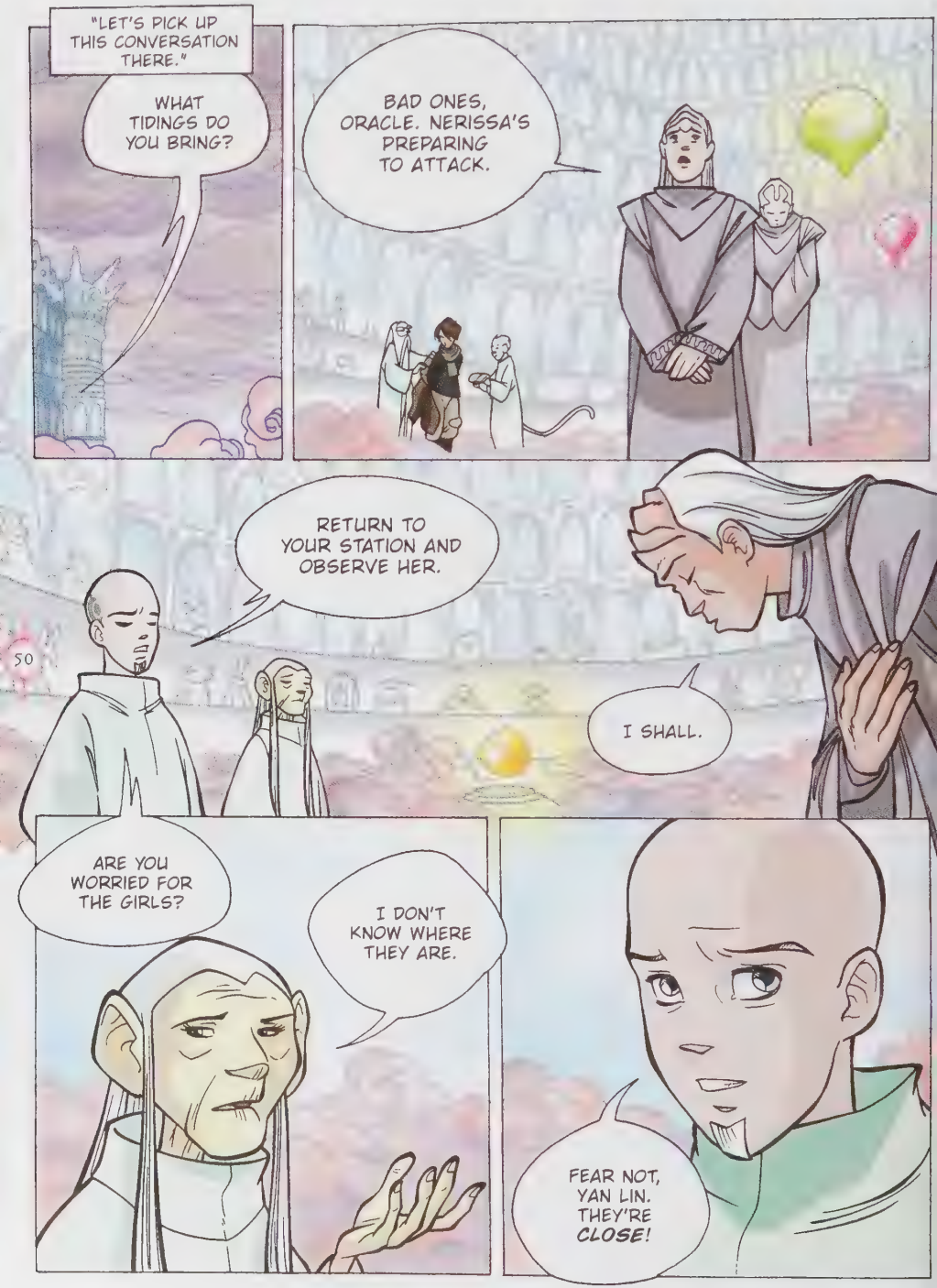
I'LL TELL YOU LATER. NOW WE HAVE TO GET CRACKING...
AIR...
WATER...
EARTH...
FIRE...
SO, KHOR... WHERE WERE WE?

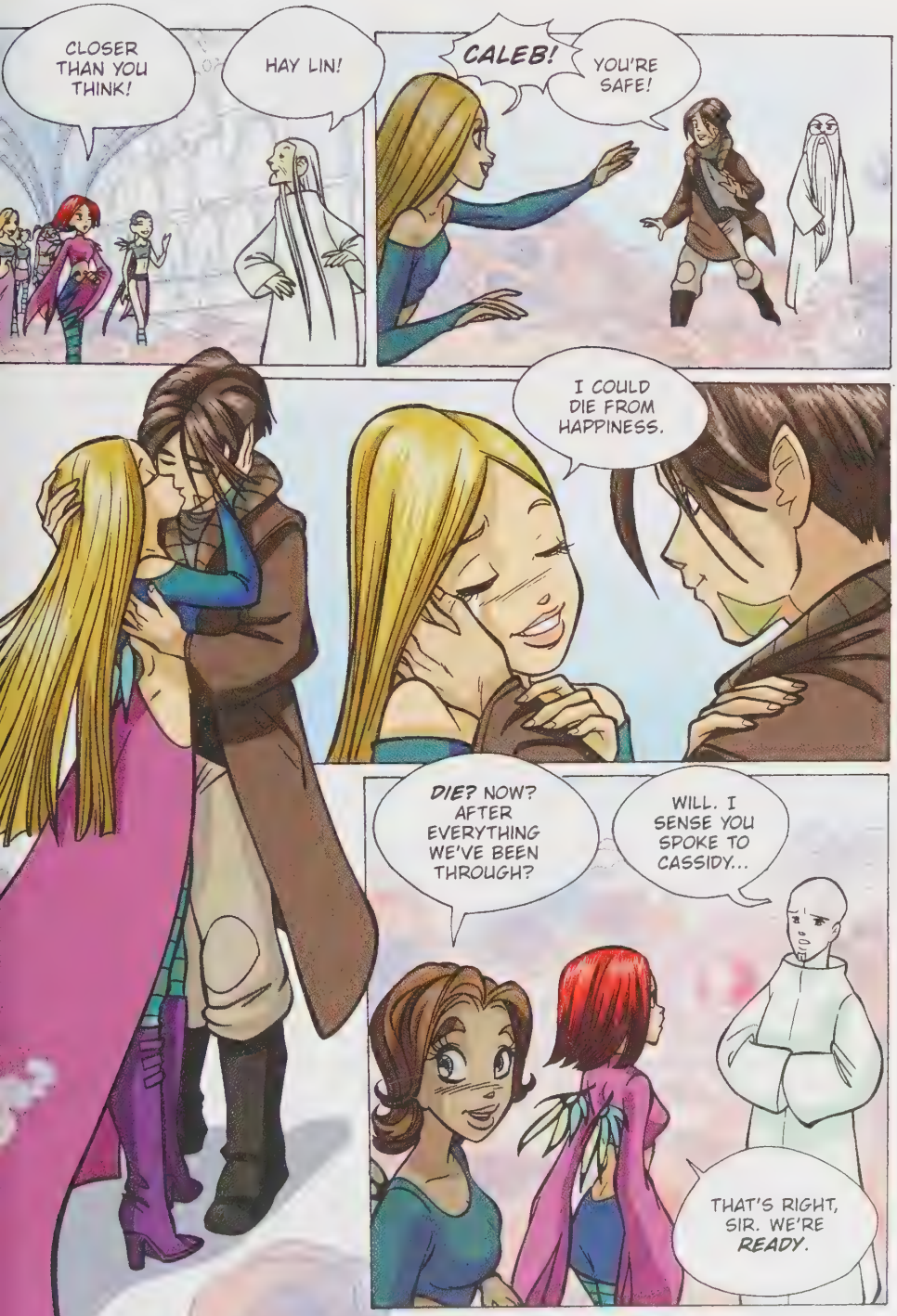
RAAAARGH!
I DIDN'T QUITE CATCH THAT, BUT I DON'T THINK HE LIKED OUR SURPRISE!
THIS ISN'T OVER YET... TELL NERISSA!
IMPUDENT GIRLS! THE GAME'S ALREADY OVER!
CRUSH THEM, KHOR!
LET'S TIRE HIM OUT... RUN!
RAAAAARGH!

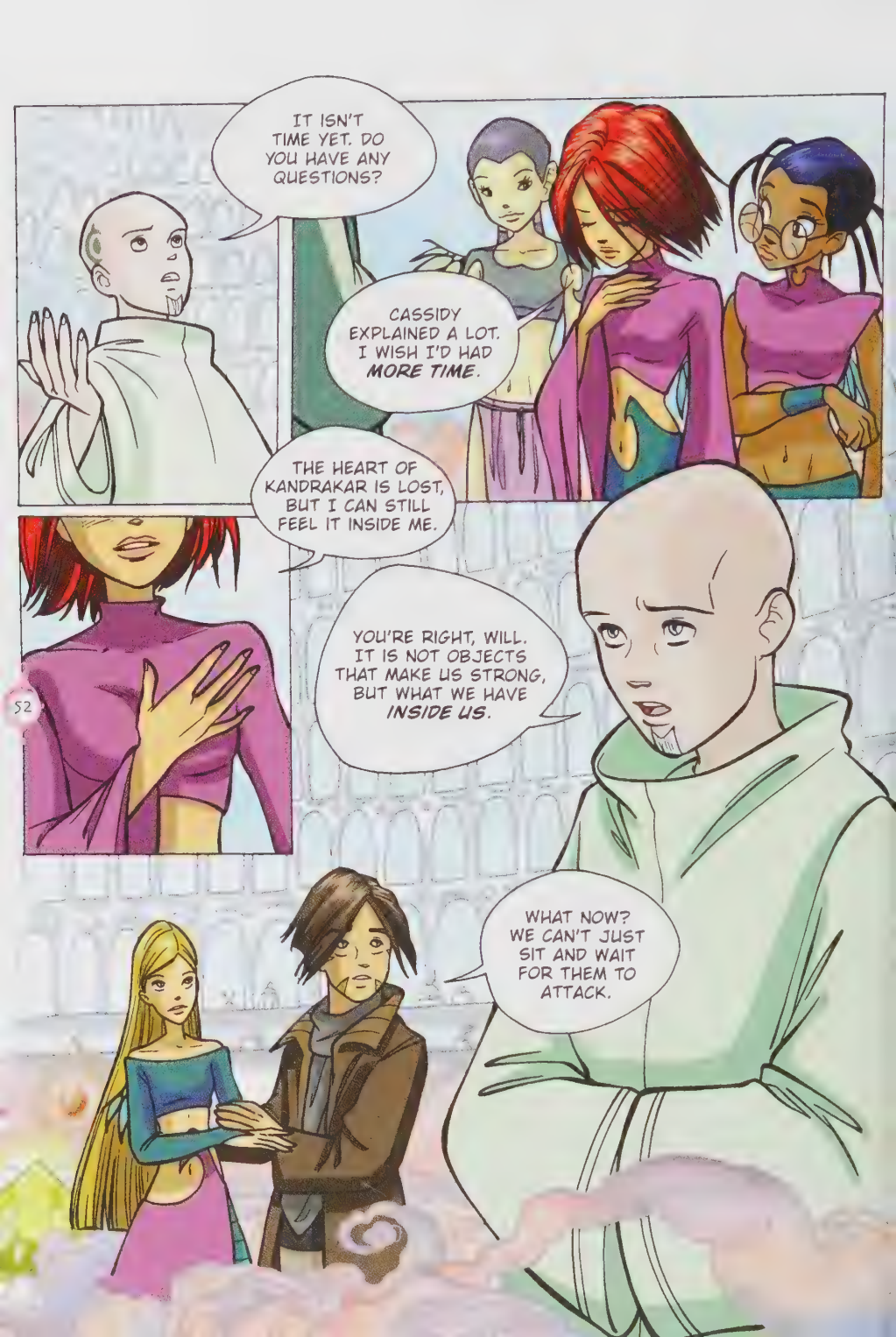
GROOOOWL!
HEY, TARANEE! SWITCH ON THE GRILL?
OOOPS!
SURE! I LOVE BARBECUES. TAKE THIS, YOU FIEND!

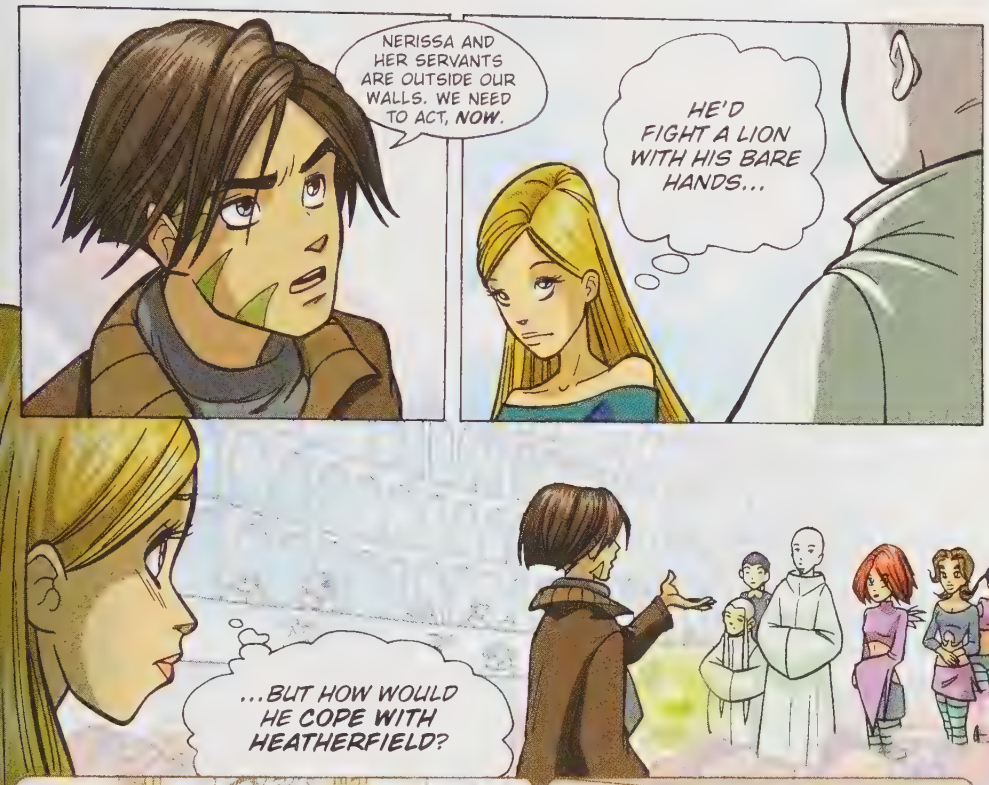
"GET UP, KHOR...GET UP AND FIGHT. NERISSA COMMANDS YOU."
I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR LIFE. YOU HAVE TO KILL THEM!
NO!
THAT'S NOT FAIR. YOU CAN'T SACRIFICE HIM ON A WHIM!
HOW DARE YOU...?
COME BACK TO ME, OLD FRIEND, LIKE IN THE OLD DAYS...
WE CAN'T LOSE A WARRIOR LIKE KHOR. ONCE HE'S BACK WITH US, WE CAN ATTACK THE FORTRESS.
I STILL NEED YOU, SHAGON. BUT YOU'LL PAY FOR YOUR IMPUDENCE.
I MAKE THE DECISIONS AROUND HERE!

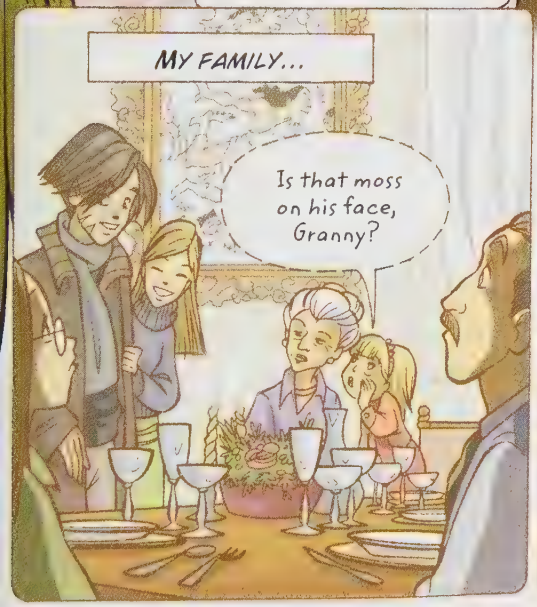
WHAT A MESS.
THINK OF THE GLASS REPAIR BILL...
WHERE'D HE GO? AFTER THAT THRASHING, HE CAN'T BE FAR.
THERE, BEHIND THOSE TREES!
HE MUST BE GOING BACK TO NERISSA.
NERISSA... CASSIDY'S FORGIVEN HER, BUT I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO.
HOW COULD YOU? LOOK WHAT SHE DID TO US.
WE'LL DISCUSS IT LATER...NOW, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
"I WONDER WHAT ERIC AND THE PROFESSOR WILL THINK..."
THERE'S SOMEONE IN THE OBSERVATORY! ERIC, CALL THE POLICE!
RUN, GUYS! I THINK WE SHOULD POP OVER TO KANDRAKAR.


"LET'S PICK UP THIS CONVERSATION THERE."
WHAT TIDINGS DO YOU BRING?
BAD ONES, ORACLE. NERISSA'S PREPARING TO ATTACK.
RETURN TO YOUR STATION AND OBSERVE HER.
I SHALL.
ARE YOU WORRIED FOR THE GIRLS?
I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE.
FEAR NOT, YAN LIN. THEY'RE CLOSE!

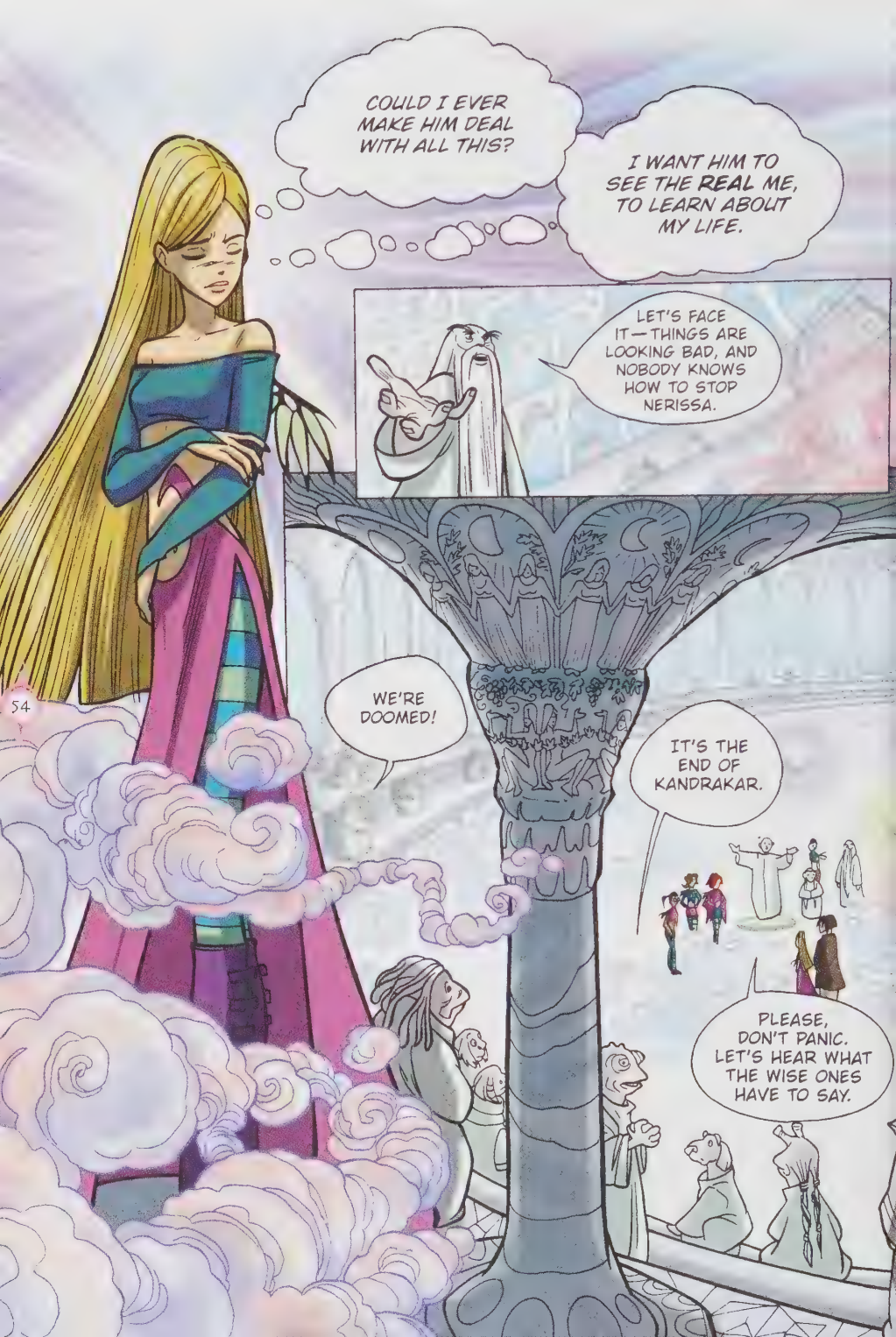

CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!
HAY LIN!
CALEB!
YOU'RE SAFE!
I COULD DIE FROM HAPPINESS.
DIE? NOW? AFTER EVERYTHING WE'VE BEEN THROUGH?
WILL. I SENSE YOU SPOKE TO CASSIDY...
THAT'S RIGHT, SIR. WE'RE READY.


IT ISN'T TIME YET. DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?
CASSIDY EXPLAINED A LOT. I WISH I'D HAD *MORE TIME*.
THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR IS LOST, BUT I CAN STILL FEEL IT INSIDE ME.
YOU'RE RIGHT, WILL. IT IS NOT OBJECTS THAT MAKE US STRONG, BUT WHAT WE HAVE *INSIDE US*.
WHAT NOW? WE CAN'T JUST SIT AND WAIT FOR THEM TO ATTACK.


NERISSA AND HER SERVANTS ARE OUTSIDE OUR WALLS. WE NEED TO ACT, NOW.
HE'D FIGHT A LION WITH HIS BARE HANDS...
...BUT HOW WOULD HE COPE WITH HEATHERFIELD?

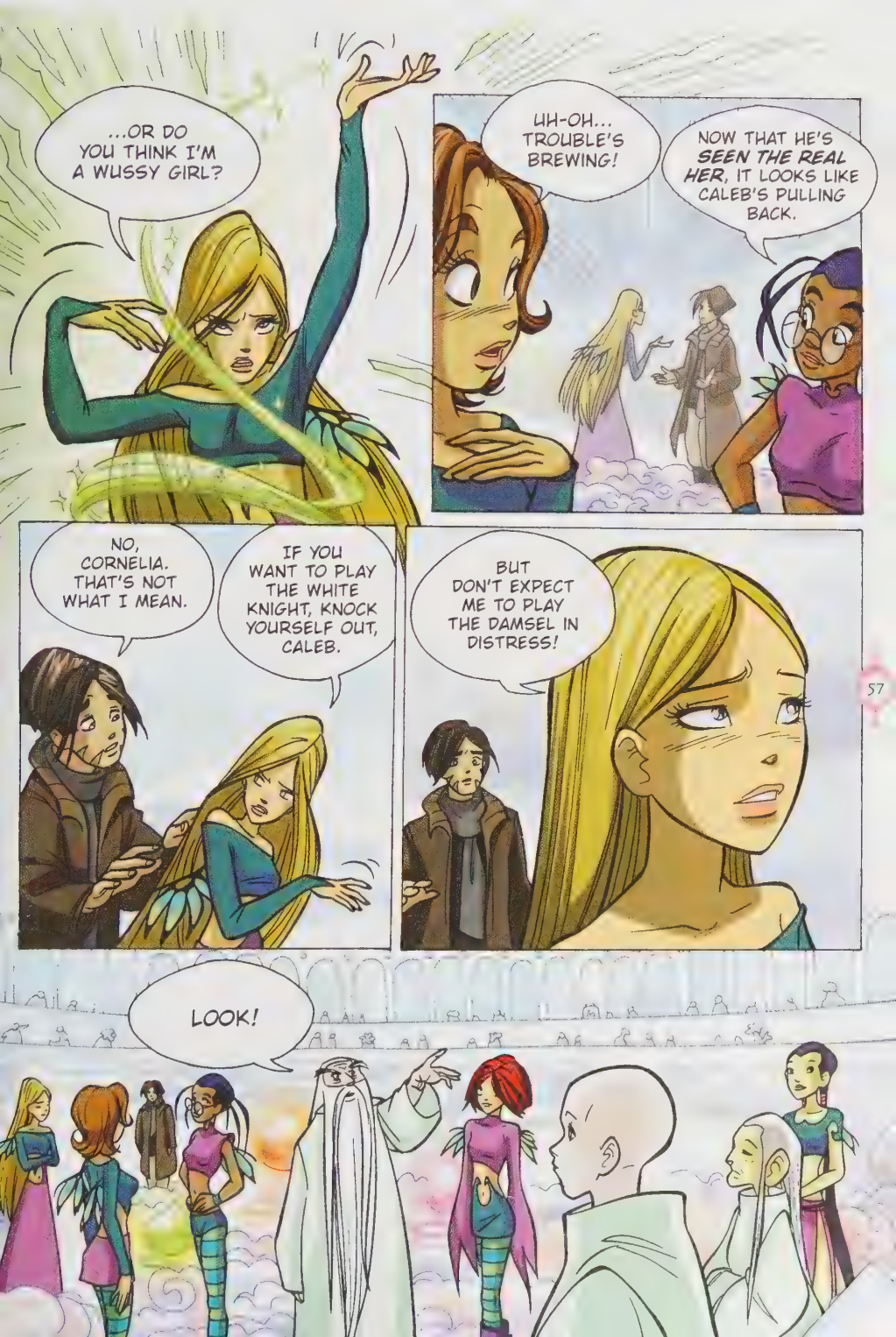

MY FAMILY...
Is that moss on his face, Granny?

SCHOOL AND EVERYTHING ELSE...


COULD I EVER MAKE HIM DEAL WITH ALL THIS?
I WANT HIM TO SEE THE REAL ME, TO LEARN ABOUT MY LIFE.
LET'S FACE IT—THINGS ARE LOOKING BAD, AND NOBODY KNOWS HOW TO STOP NERISSA.
WE'RE DOOMED!
IT'S THE END OF KANDRAKAR.
PLEASE, DON'T PANIC. LET'S HEAR WHAT THE WISE ONES HAVE TO SAY.

I'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE...
...IN MERIDIAN. SOMETIMES, IT WAS HARD TO KEEP HOPE ALIVE TOO.
WHAT...?
CALEB... YOU ALL RIGHT?
OH... SURE.
SHE'S SO DIFFERENT FROM THE CORNELIA I KNOW. IS THIS THE REAL HER? HOW CAN I MAKE HER FACE ALL THIS?

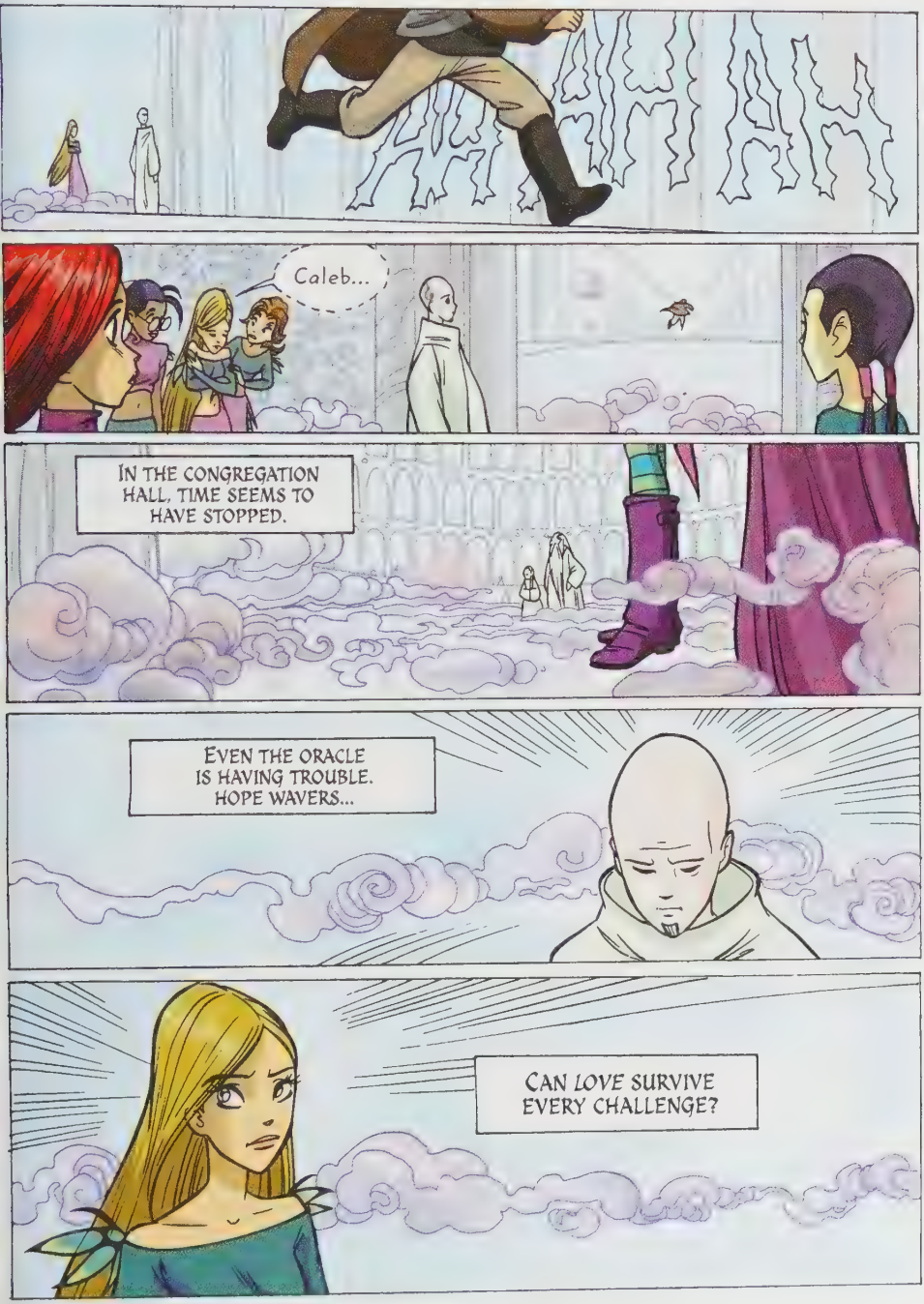
WHY THE WEIRD FACE? YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE ME WITHOUT WINGS?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SOMETIMES I WONDER WHAT OUR FUTURE WILL BE...
A FUTURE WHERE WE'LL BE TOGETHER. AWAY FROM KANDRAKAR, NOW THAT THE ORACLE HAS SET YOU FREE.
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'RE WORRIED. I CAN FEEL IT...
THIS LIFE WORRIES ME. I'M A WARRIOR. I CAN'T BE ANYTHING ELSE, BUT YOU...
...CAN YOU ACCEPT HAVING SOMEONE LIKE ME BY YOUR SIDE?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, CALEB. I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!


...OR DO YOU THINK I'M A WUSSY GIRL?
UH-OH... TROUBLE'S BREWING!
NOW THAT HE'S SEEN THE REAL HER, IT LOOKS LIKE CALEB'S PULLING BACK.
NO, CORNELIA. THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN.
IF YOU WANT TO PLAY THE WHITE KNIGHT, KNOCK YOURSELF OUT, CALEB.
BUT DON'T EXPECT ME TO PLAY THE DAMSEL IN DISTRESS!
LOOK!

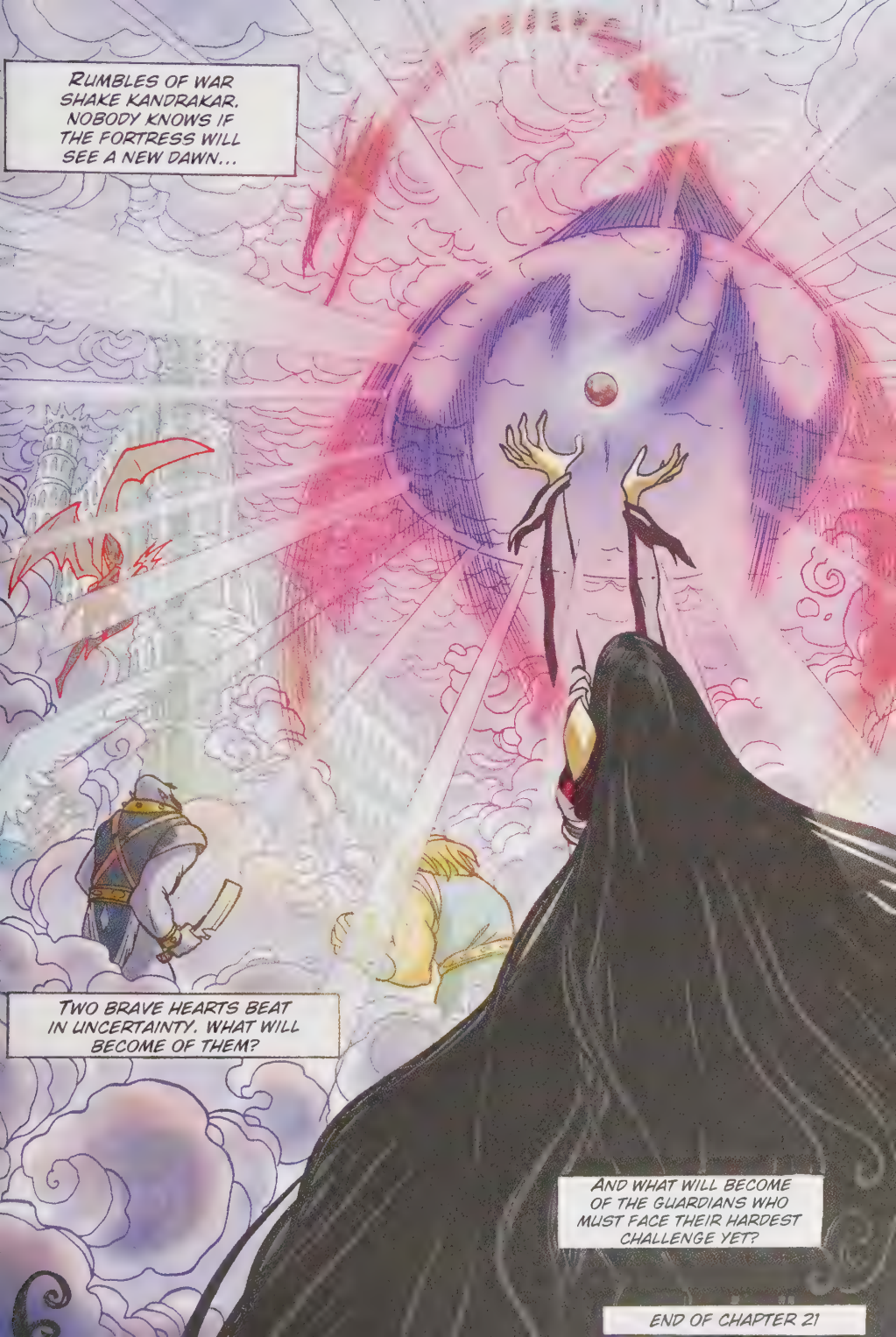
OH...
FUT
FUT
FUT
WELL, WELL, WELL... WE MEET AGAIN.
IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK HOME!

OH, SORRY... I HAVEN'T INTRODUCED MY NEW FRIENDS...
...BUT SOME OF YOU HAVE ALREADY MET THEM!
THEY'LL HELP ME SETTLE OUR UNFINISHED BUSINESS...
WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF YOU, NERISSA...
CALEB, STOP!
YOU'RE NOT READY TO FACE NERISSA.
THIS IS MY FIGHT TOO, ORACLE, AND I WANT TO BE THERE. YOU CAN'T STOP ME!

THEN, MAY YOUR DESTINY BE FULFILLED...
CALEB!
I'M SORRY FOR WHAT I SAID. WILL...YOU COME BACK TO ME?
I WILL, CORNELIA. I PROMISE.
AND THEN WE'LL TALK ABOUT OUR FUTURE.


Caleb...
IN THE CONGREGATION HALL, TIME SEEMS TO HAVE STOPPED.
EVEN THE ORACLE IS HAVING TROUBLE. HOPE WAVERS...
CAN LOVE SURVIVE EVERY CHALLENGE?

NERISSA HASN'T WON YET. GATHER THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE RESONANCE!
OH... THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE RESONANCE! I'M SHAKING IN MY BOOTS!
I CAN FACE ANYTHING. I'M NOT AFRAID OF ANYONE, AND NOTHING CAN STOP ME...
...BECAUSE NOTHING CAN WITHSTAND THE DARK POWER OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR!
ARE YOU READY TO FACE YOUR DESTINY?


RUMBLES OF WAR SHAKE KANDRAKAR. NOBODY KNOWS IF THE FORTRESS WILL SEE A NEW DAWN...
TWO BRAVE HEARTS BEAT IN UNCERTAINTY. WHAT WILL BECOME OF THEM?
AND WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GUARDIANS WHO MUST FACE THEIR HARDEST CHALLENGE YET?
END OF CHAPTER 21

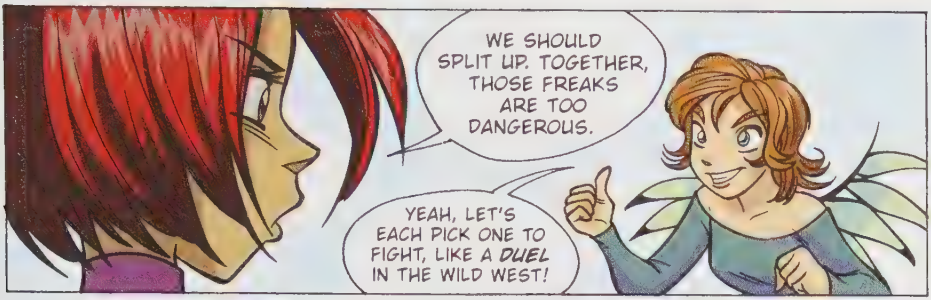
“Two brave hearts beat in uncertainty. What will become of them?”

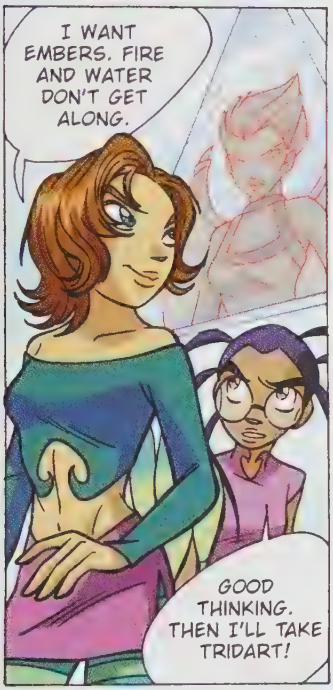
22

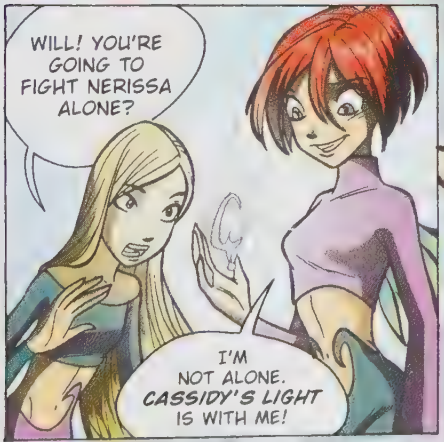
“There are questions even I cannot answer.”

YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEE THAT NOTHING IS PERMANENT.
CLOUDS OF HATRED LOOM OVER THE TOWERS.
TODAY, KANDRAKAR IS NO LONGER THE PEACEFUL HEART OF INFINITY...
...BUT A BATTLEFIELD!
ORACLE! NERISSA AND HER MINIONS ARE AT THE GATES!
NOTHING BUT INADEQUATE WALLS STAND BETWEEN THEM AND US.
MAY OUR DESTINY BE FULFILLED. RETURN TO THE MEDITATION CIRCLE. I WILL BE RIGHT THERE.

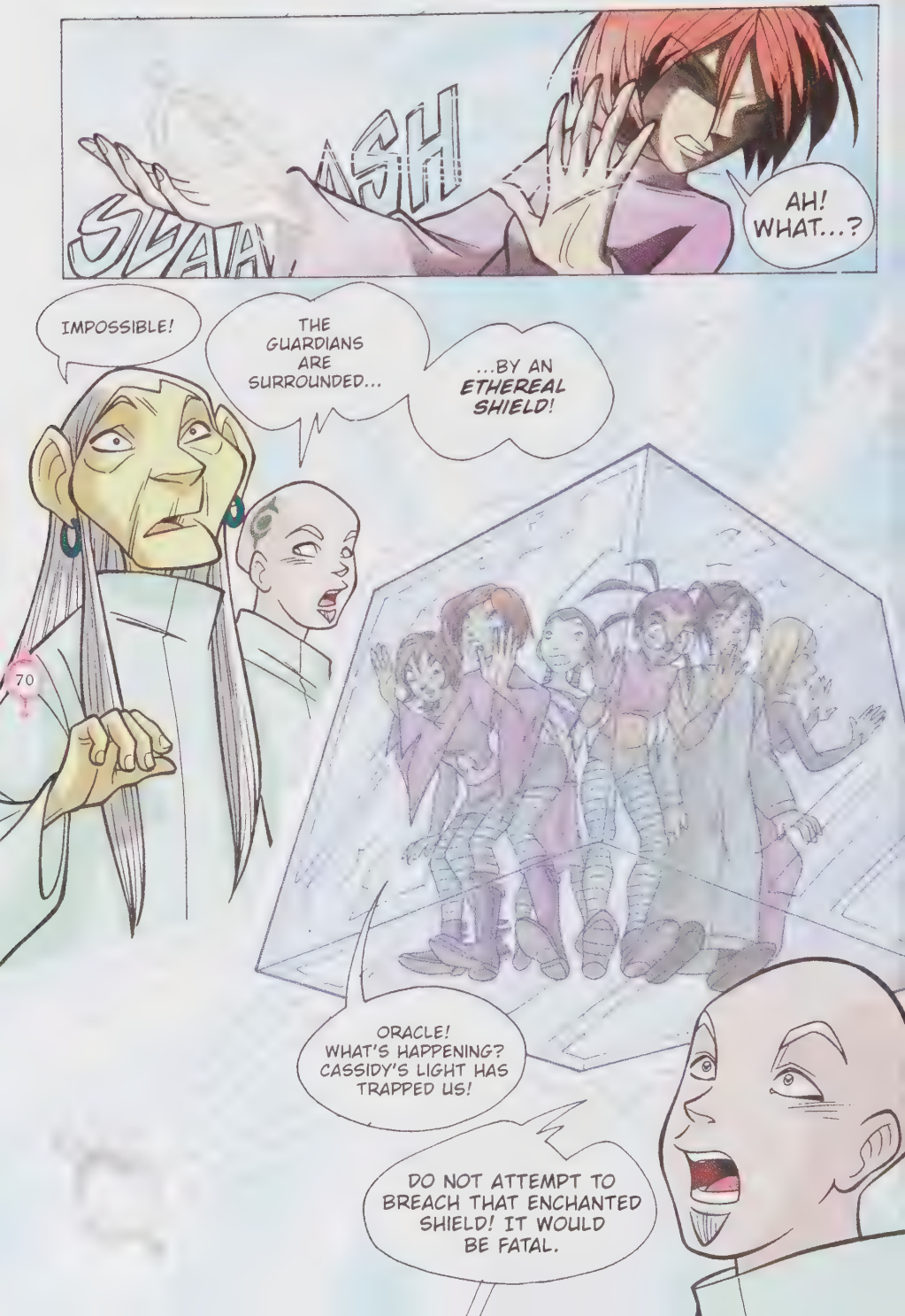
YOU'RE NOT GONNA DO ANYTHING? GO! KICK THEIR BUTTS!
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, IRMA?
IT'S UP TO US!
WILL'S RIGHT. THAT'S WHY THEY CALL US GUARDIANS.
ONCE, GIRLS DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THE DIRTY WORK— JUST SAYIN'!
68
ACTUALLY, OUR TASK'S AS DIFFICULT AS YOURS.
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN, HONORABLE YAN LIN. WE MUST CLOSE THE CIRCLE!
I'VE GOT TO GO, MY DARLING. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.
GRANDMA, I...
LOOK! NERISSA AND HER FIENDS HAVE STOPPED!
I BET THEY'RE PLANNING THEIR FINAL ATTACK.

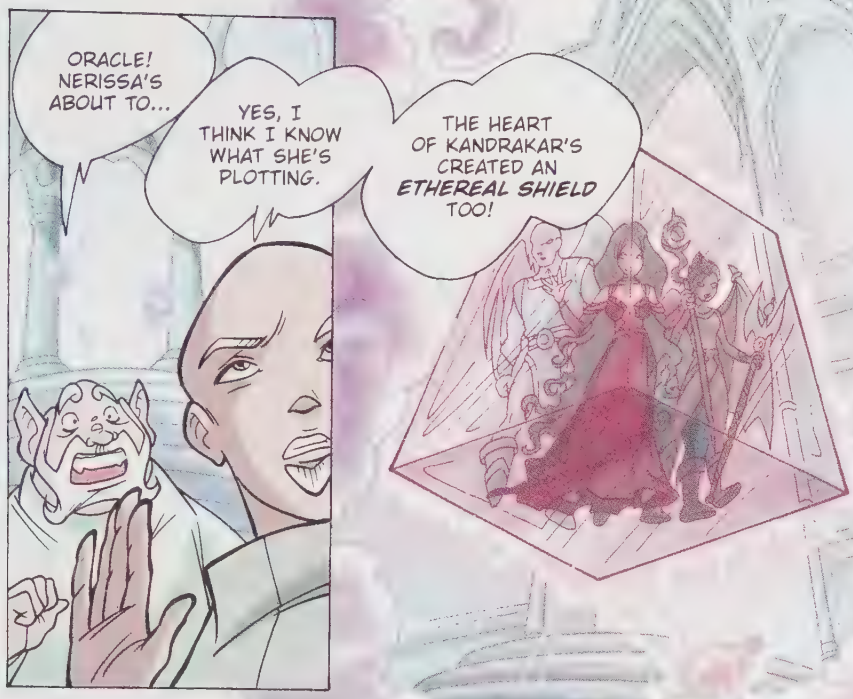




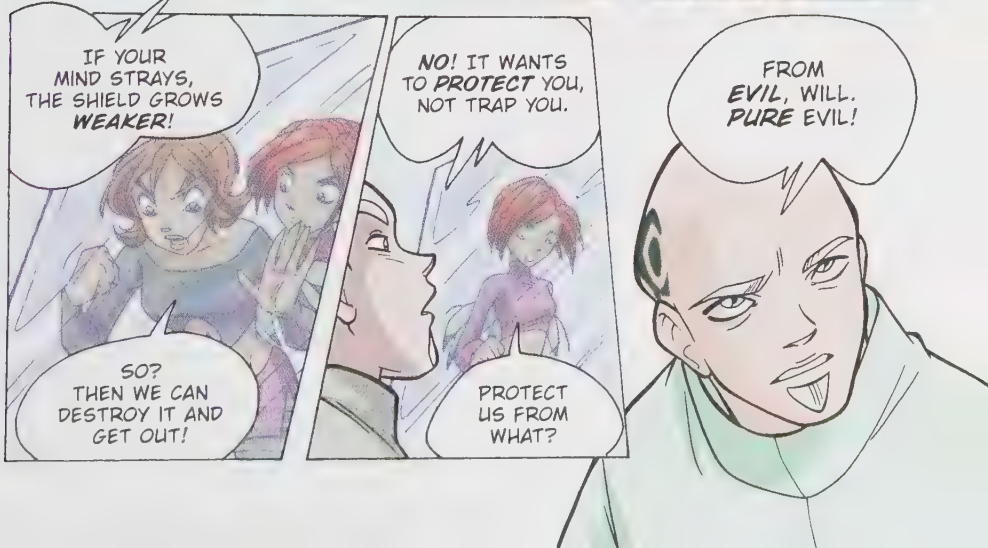


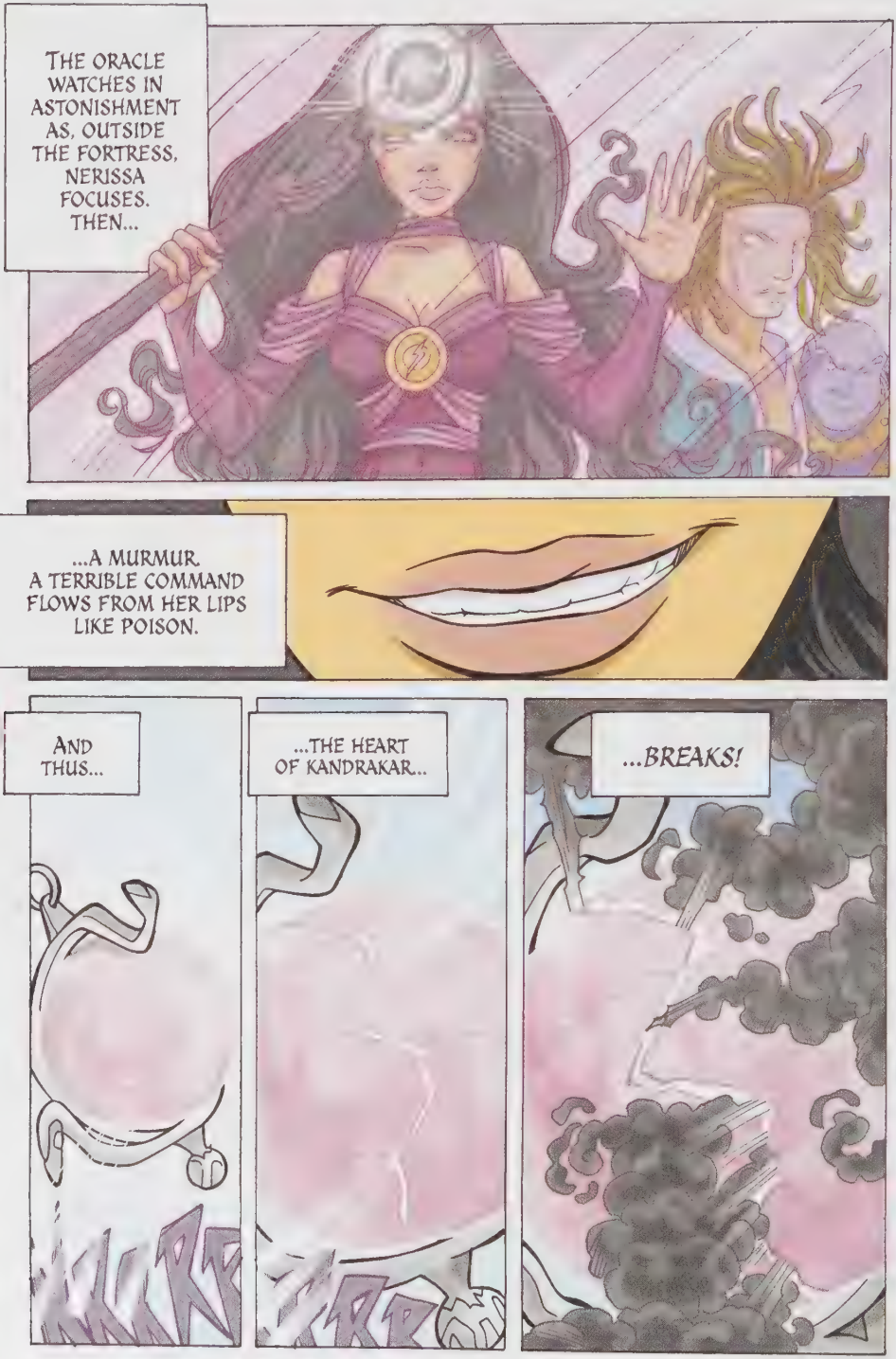
*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #17


SWAA
ASH
AH! WHAT...?
IMPOSSIBLE!
THE GUARDIANS ARE SURROUNDED...
...BY AN ETHEREAL SHIELD!
ORACLE! WHAT'S HAPPENING? CASSIDY'S LIGHT HAS TRAPPED US!
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BREACH THAT ENCHANTED SHIELD! IT WOULD BE FATAL.

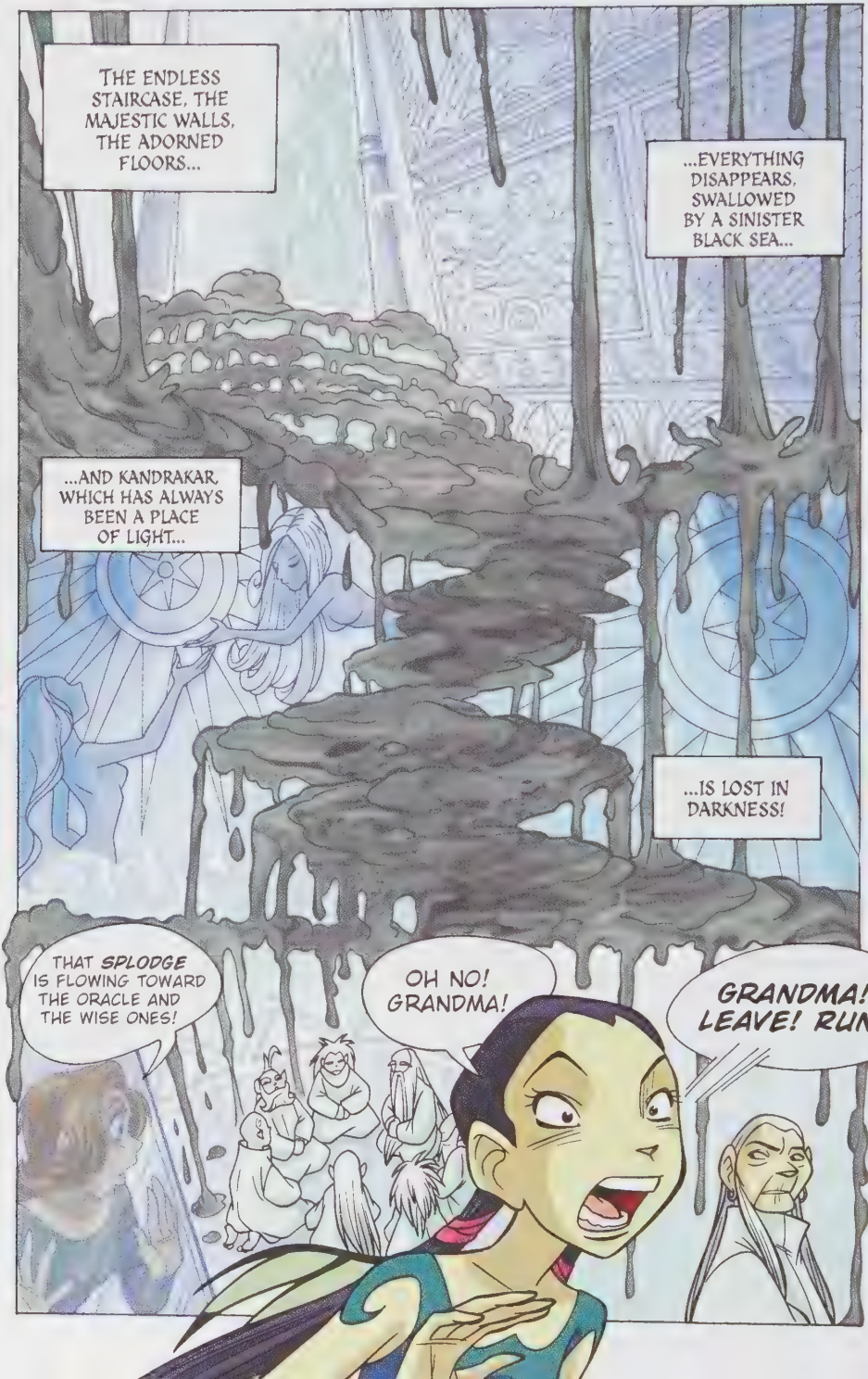

ORACLE! NERISSA'S ABOUT TO...
YES, I THINK I KNOW WHAT SHE'S PLOTTING.
THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR'S CREATED AN ETHEREAL SHIELD TOO!

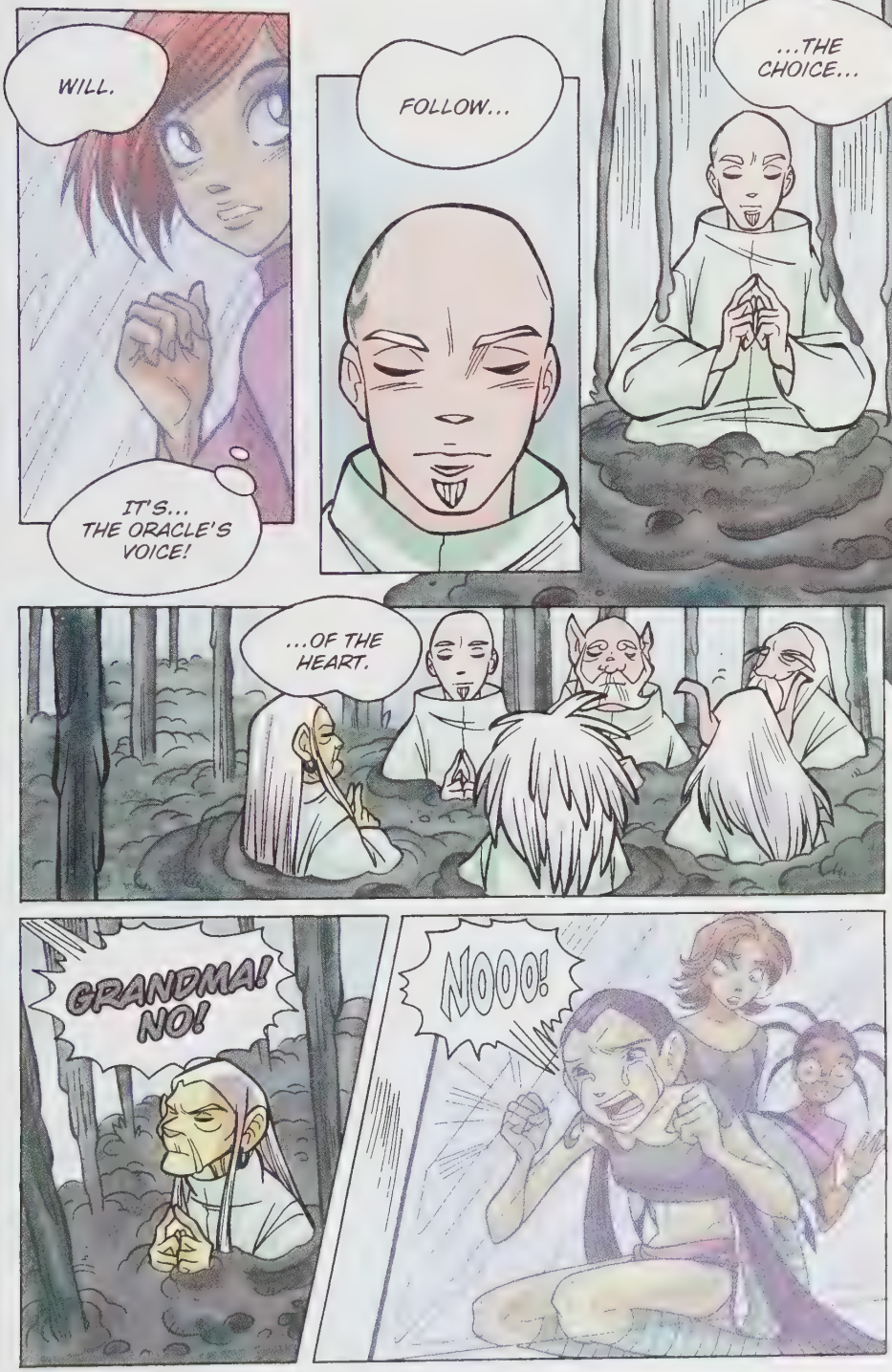
LISTEN, GUARDIANS. KEEP YOUR THOUGHTS FOCUSED ON KANDRAKAR AT ALL TIMES!
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

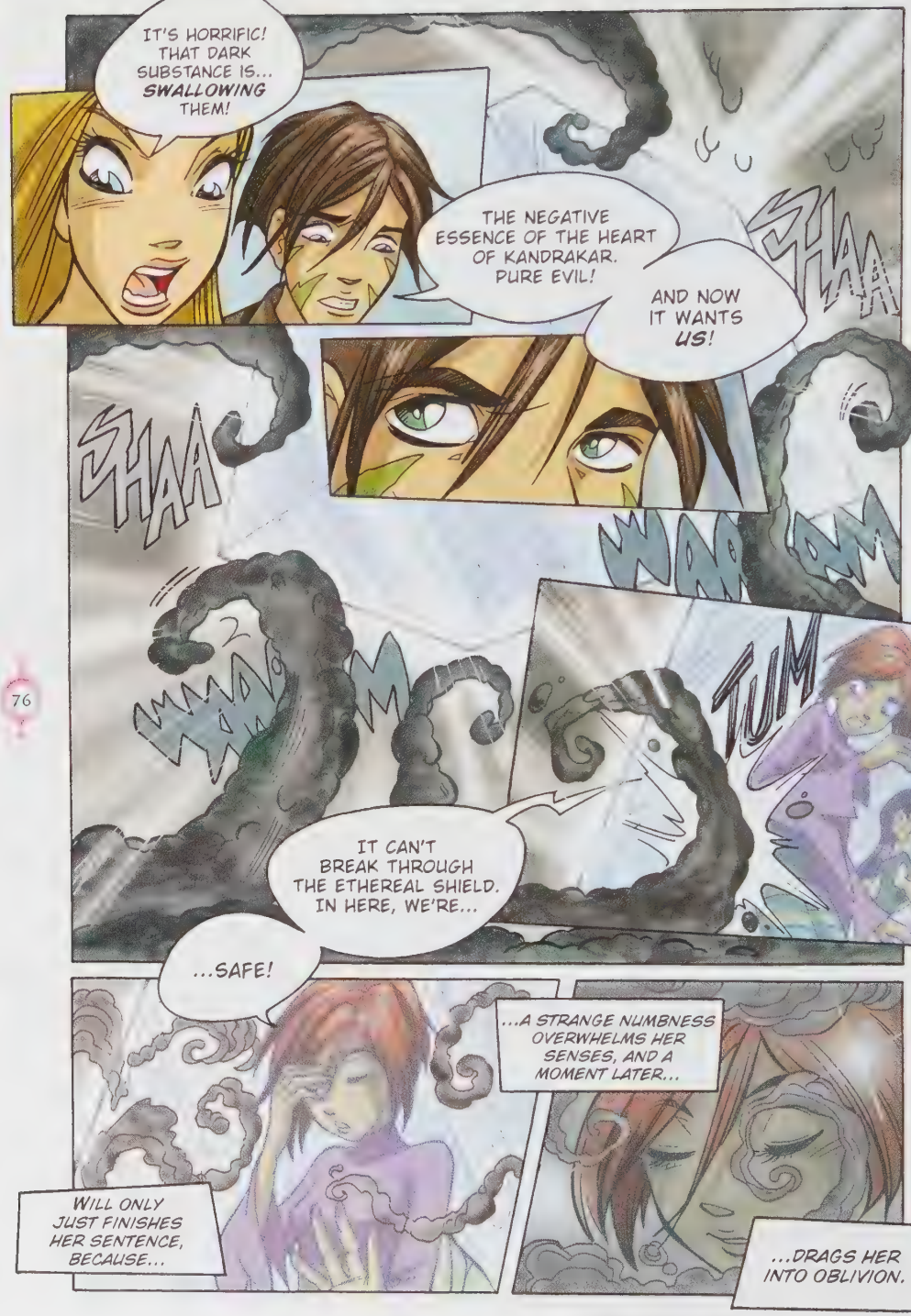

IF YOUR MIND STRAYS, THE SHIELD GROWS WEAKER!
SO? THEN WE CAN DESTROY IT AND GET OUT!
NO! IT WANTS TO PROTECT YOU, NOT TRAP YOU.
PROTECT US FROM WHAT?
FROM EVIL, WILL. PURE EVIL!


THE ORACLE WATCHES IN ASTONISHMENT AS, OUTSIDE THE FORTRESS, NERISSA FOCUSES. THEN...
...A MURMUR. A TERRIBLE COMMAND FLOWS FROM HER LIPS LIKE POISON.
AND THUS...
...THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR...
...BREAKS!

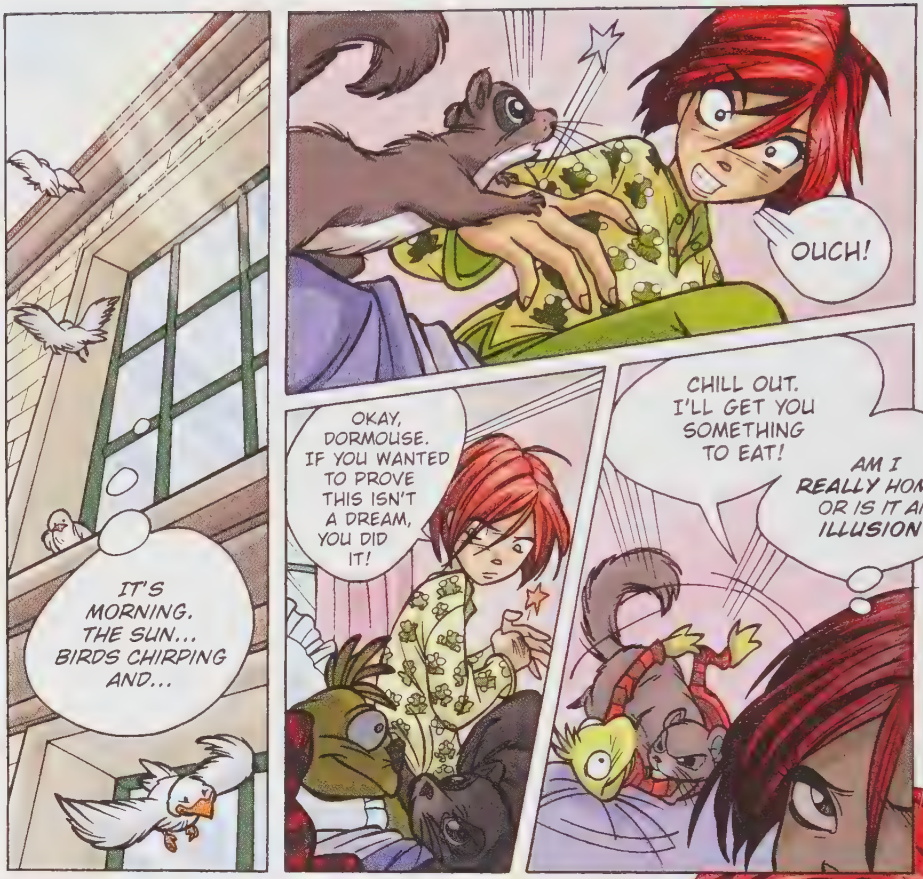
THE BROKEN HEART, WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE MARK OF THE FORMER GUARDIAN...
...WASN'T JUST A SYMBOL, BUT AN OMEN!
BLACK DROPS START LEAKING FROM THE CRACK IN THE JEWEL...
...TAR—LIKE TEARS THAT FALL ON KANDRAKAR'S FORTRESS...
...AND BEGIN COATING IT...
...CORRUPTING ITS PERFECT, AGELESS ARCHITECTURE...

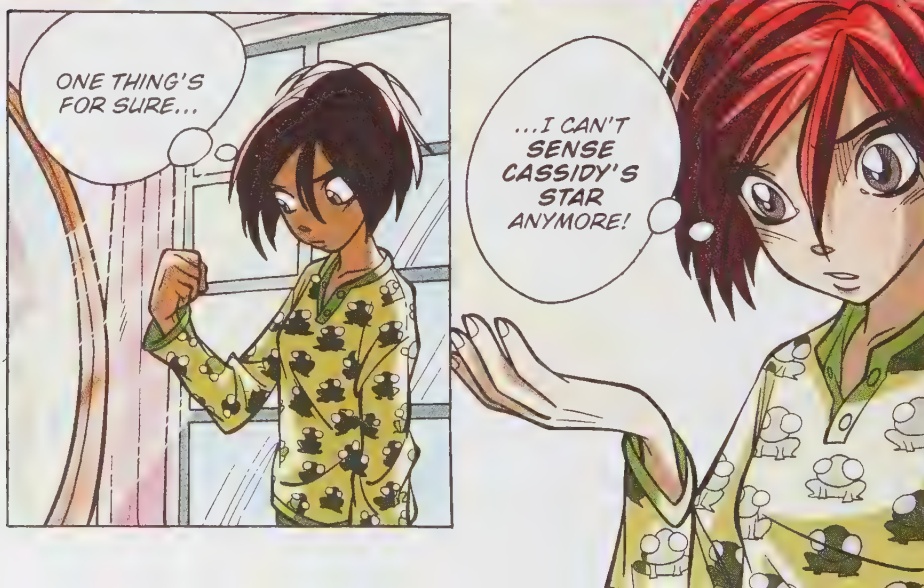

THE ENDLESS STAIRCASE, THE MAJESTIC WALLS, THE ADORNED FLOORS...
...EVERYTHING DISAPPEARS, SWALLOWED BY A SINISTER BLACK SEA...
...AND KANDRAKAR, WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PLACE OF LIGHT...
...IS LOST IN DARKNESS!
THAT SPLODGE IS FLOWING TOWARD THE ORACLE AND THE WISE ONES!
OH NO! GRANDMA!
GRANDMA! LEAVE! RUN!

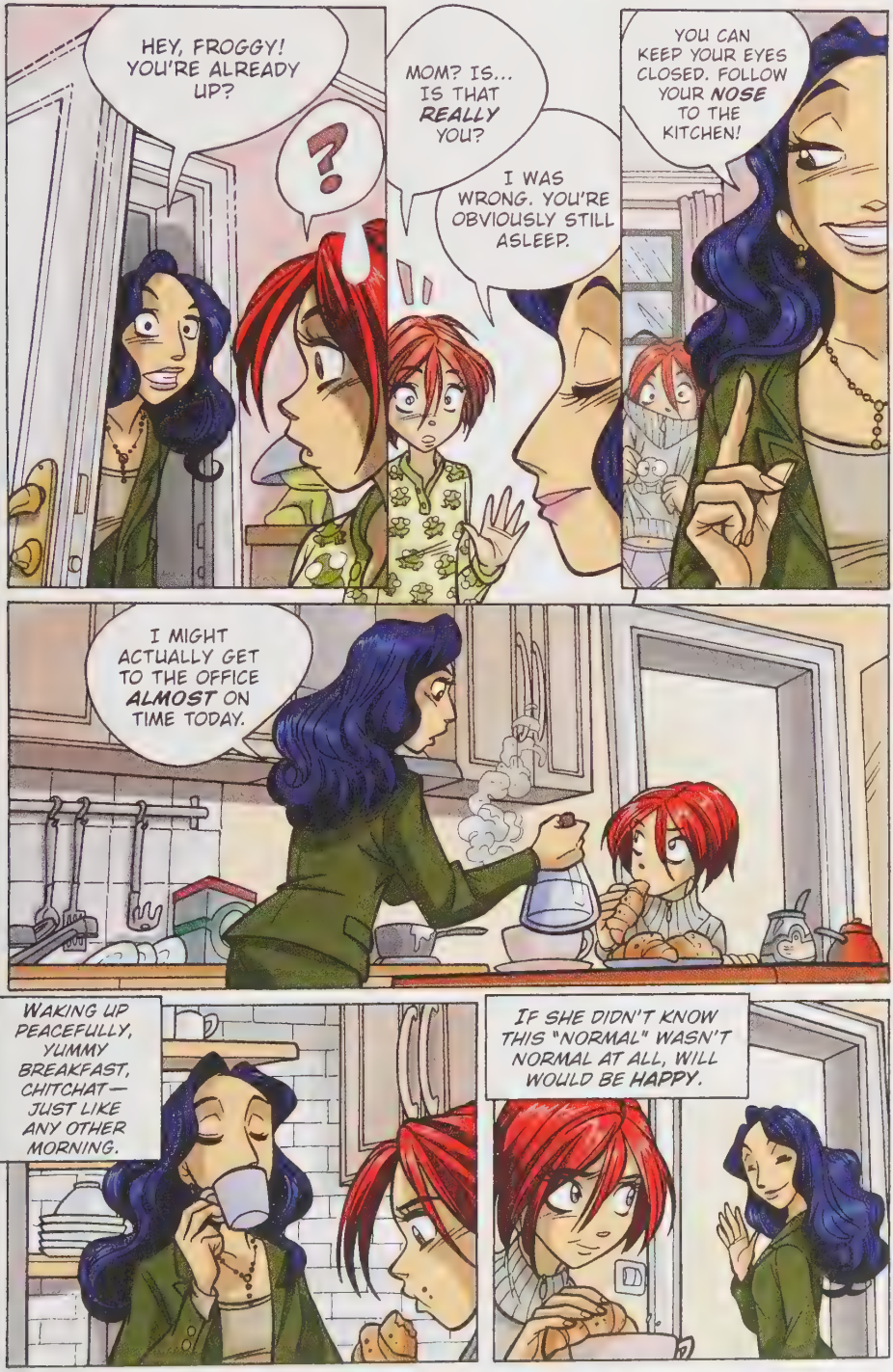

WILL.
IT'S... THE ORACLE'S VOICE!
FOLLOW...
...THE CHOICE...
...OF THE HEART.
GRANDMA! NO!
NOOO!

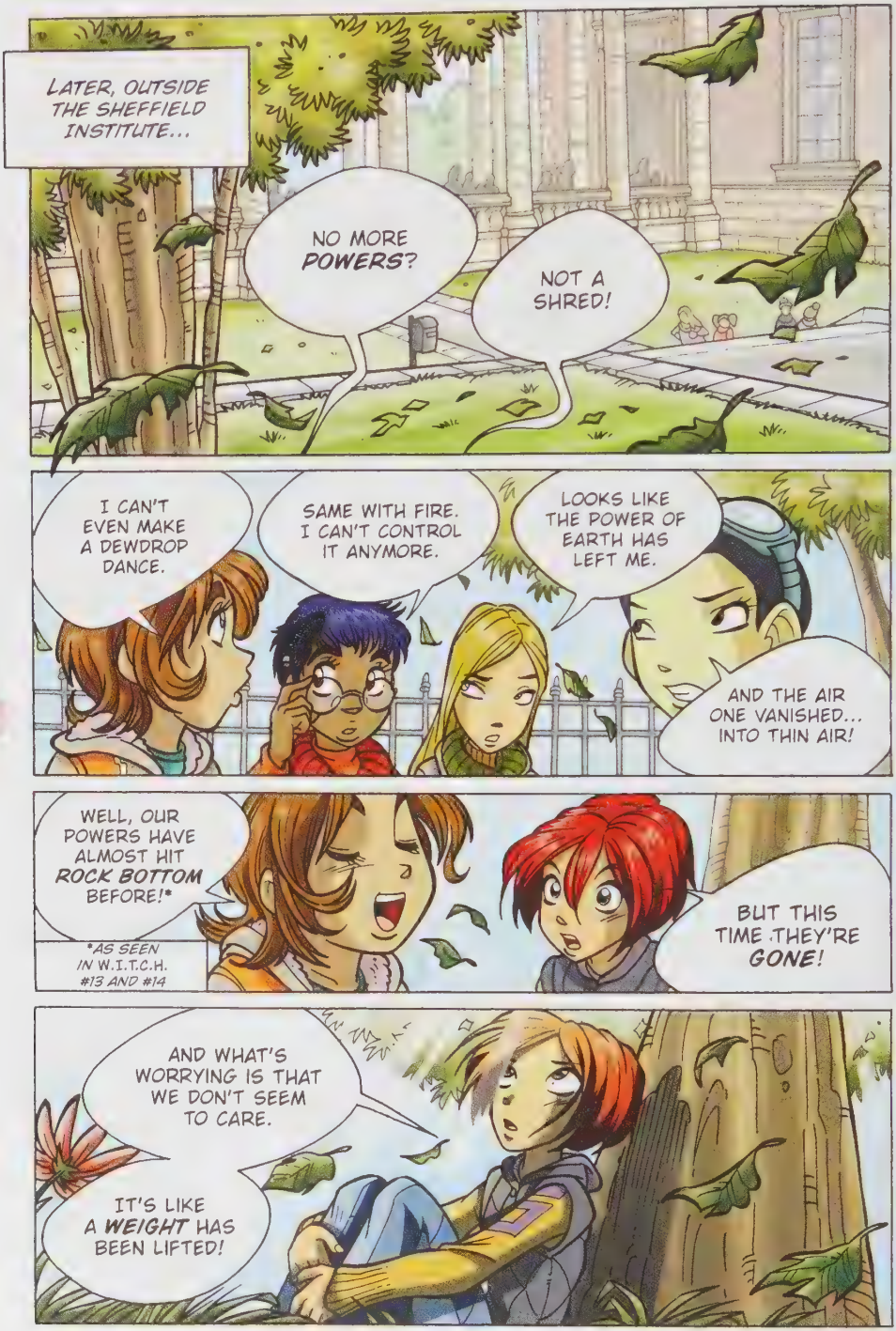

IT'S HORRIFIC! THAT DARK SUBSTANCE IS... SWALLOWING THEM!
THE NEGATIVE ESSENCE OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR. PURE EVIL!
AND NOW IT WANTS US!
SHAA
SHAA
WAAOOM
TUM
IT CAN'T BREAK THROUGH THE ETHEREAL SHIELD. IN HERE, WE'RE...
...SAFE!
...A STRANGE NUMBNESS OVERWHELMS HER SENSES, AND A MOMENT LATER...
WILL ONLY JUST FINISHES HER SENTENCE, BECAUSE...
...DRAGS HER INTO OBLIVION.

AND AFTER THE DARKNESS...
...THERE'S LIGHT!
?
WH-WHAT...?
WHERE'S KANDRAKAR? WHY AM I IN MY ROOM?

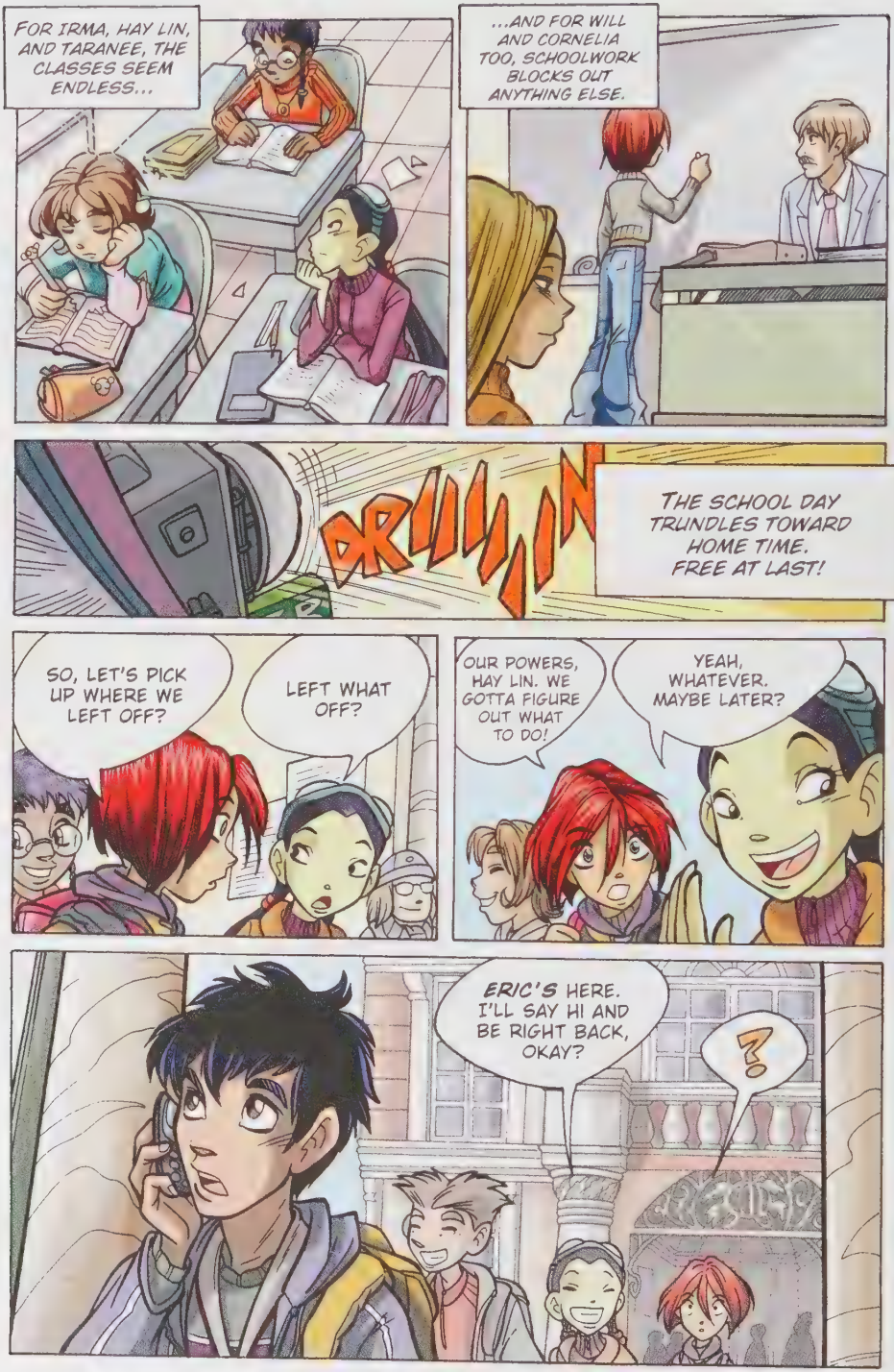

IT'S MORNING. THE SUN... BIRDS CHIRPING AND...
OUCH!
OKAY, DORMOUSE. IF YOU WANTED TO PROVE THIS ISN'T A DREAM, YOU DID IT!
CHILL OUT. I'LL GET YOU SOMETHING TO EAT!
AM I REALLY HOME OR IS IT AN ILLUSION?

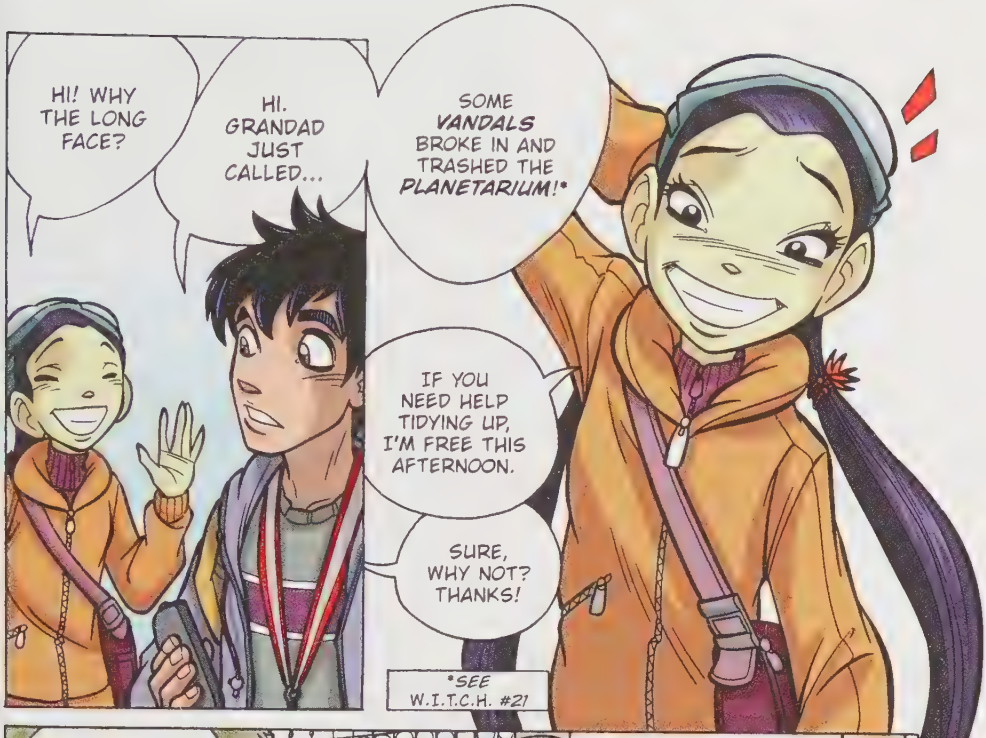

ONE THING'S FOR SURE...
...I CAN'T SENSE CASSIDY'S STAR ANYMORE!

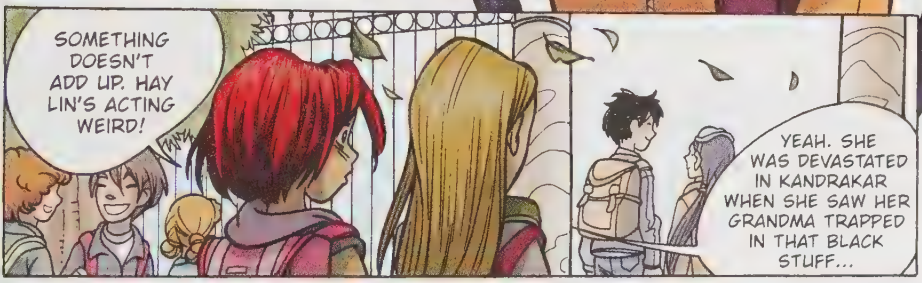

HEY, FROGGY! YOU'RE ALREADY UP?
?
MOM? IS... IS THAT REALLY YOU?
I WAS WRONG. YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY STILL ASLEEP.
YOU CAN KEEP YOUR EYES CLOSED. FOLLOW YOUR NOSE TO THE KITCHEN!
I MIGHT ACTUALLY GET TO THE OFFICE ALMOST ON TIME TODAY.
WAKING UP PEACEFULLY, YUMMY BREAKFAST, CHITCHAT— JUST LIKE ANY OTHER MORNING.
IF SHE DIDN'T KNOW THIS "NORMAL" WASN'T NORMAL AT ALL, WILL WOULD BE HAPPY.

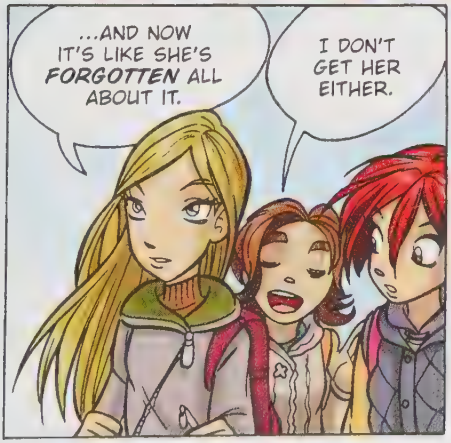

LATER, OUTSIDE THE SHEFFIELD INSTITUTE...
NO MORE POWERS?
NOT A SHRED!
I CAN'T EVEN MAKE A DEWDROP DANCE.
SAME WITH FIRE. I CAN'T CONTROL IT ANYMORE.
LOOKS LIKE THE POWER OF EARTH HAS LEFT ME.
AND THE AIR ONE VANISHED... INTO THIN AIR!
WELL, OUR POWERS HAVE ALMOST HIT ROCK BOTTOM BEFORE!*
*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #13 AND #14
BUT THIS TIME THEY'RE GONE!
AND WHAT'S WORRYING IS THAT WE DON'T SEEM TO CARE.
IT'S LIKE A WEIGHT HAS BEEN LIFTED!

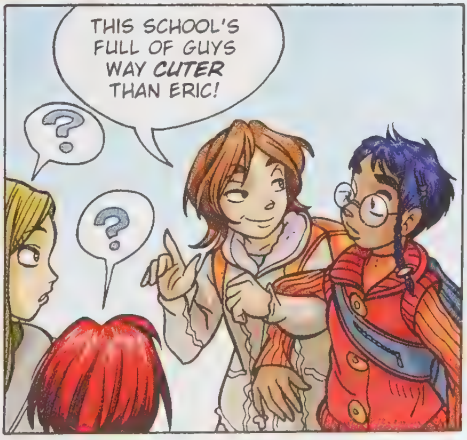
GIRLS! THE BELL RANG AGES AGO!
YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO GET MOVING! SO MOVE OUT!
UM... THANKS, MS. KNICKERBOCHER. WE OBVIOUSLY MISSED IT!
YOU THINK I LIKE BEING A WATCHDOG, HUH?
I think she does!
I bet she eats bone-shaped cookies in the morning!
THEY'RE ALL CHEERFUL... HAVE THEY FORGOTTEN THE MESS WE'RE IN?
THE GIRLS' DAY AT SCHOOL STARTS OUT PERFECTLY NORMAL...


FOR IRMA, HAY LIN, AND TARANEE, THE CLASSES SEEM ENDLESS...
...AND FOR WILL AND CORNELIA TOO, SCHOOLWORK BLOCKS OUT ANYTHING ELSE.
DRIIIIIN
THE SCHOOL DAY TRUNDLES TOWARD HOME TIME. FREE AT LAST!
SO, LET'S PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF?
LEFT WHAT OFF?
OUR POWERS, HAY LIN. WE GOTTA FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO!
YEAH, WHATEVER. MAYBE LATER?
ERIC'S HERE. I'LL SAY HI AND BE RIGHT BACK, OKAY?
?


HI! WHY THE LONG FACE?
HI. GRANDAD JUST CALLED...
SOME VANDALS BROKE IN AND TRASHED THE PLANETARIUM!*
IF YOU NEED HELP TIDYING UP, I'M FREE THIS AFTERNOON.
SURE, WHY NOT? THANKS!
*SEE W.I.T.C.H. #2!


SOMETHING DOESN'T ADD UP. HAY LIN'S ACTING WEIRD!
YEAH. SHE WAS DEVASTATED IN KANDRAKAR WHEN SHE SAW HER GRANDMA TRAPPED IN THAT BLACK STUFF...


...AND NOW IT'S LIKE SHE'S FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT IT.
I DON'T GET HER EITHER.

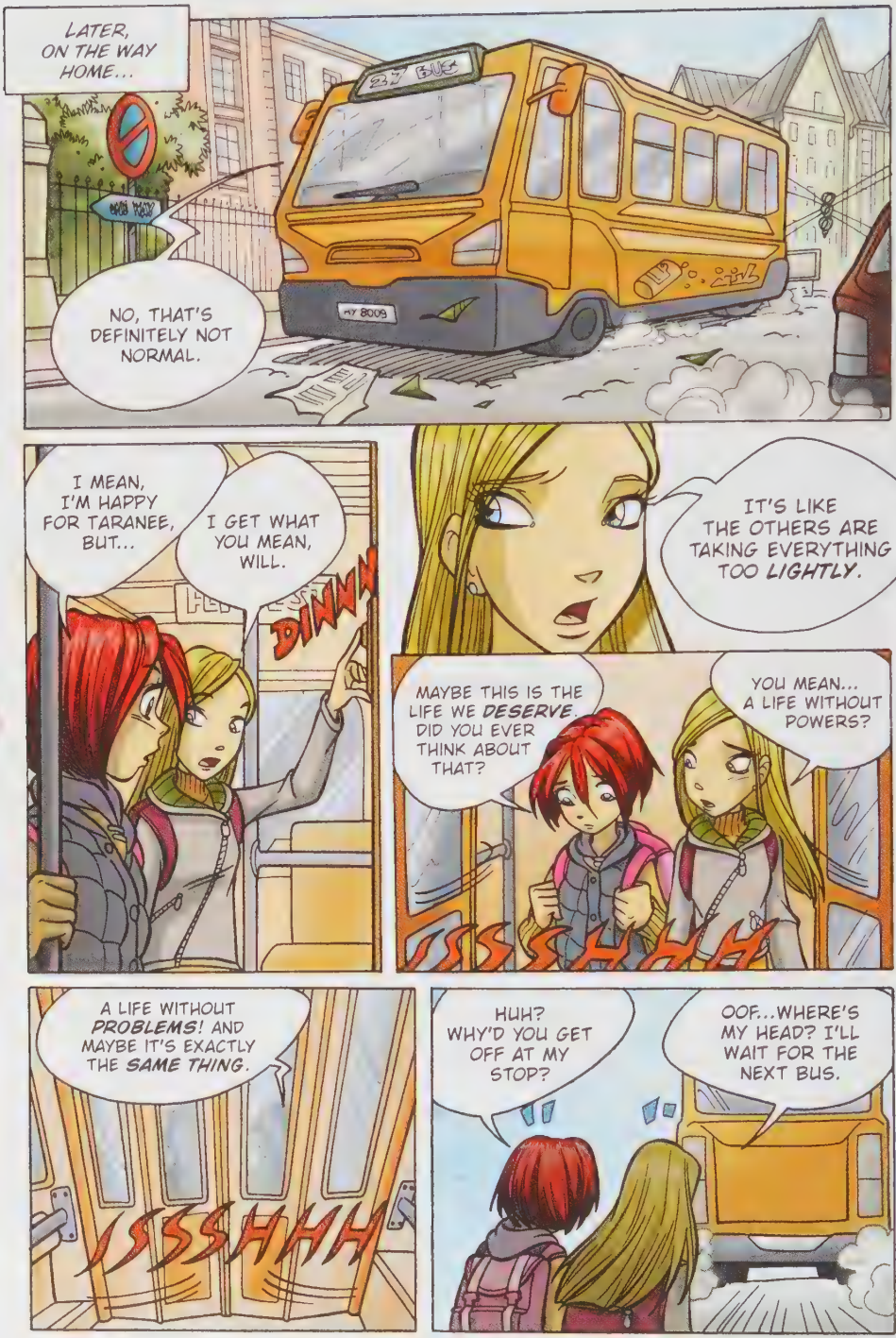

THIS SCHOOL'S FULL OF GUYS WAY CUTER THAN ERIC!
?
?

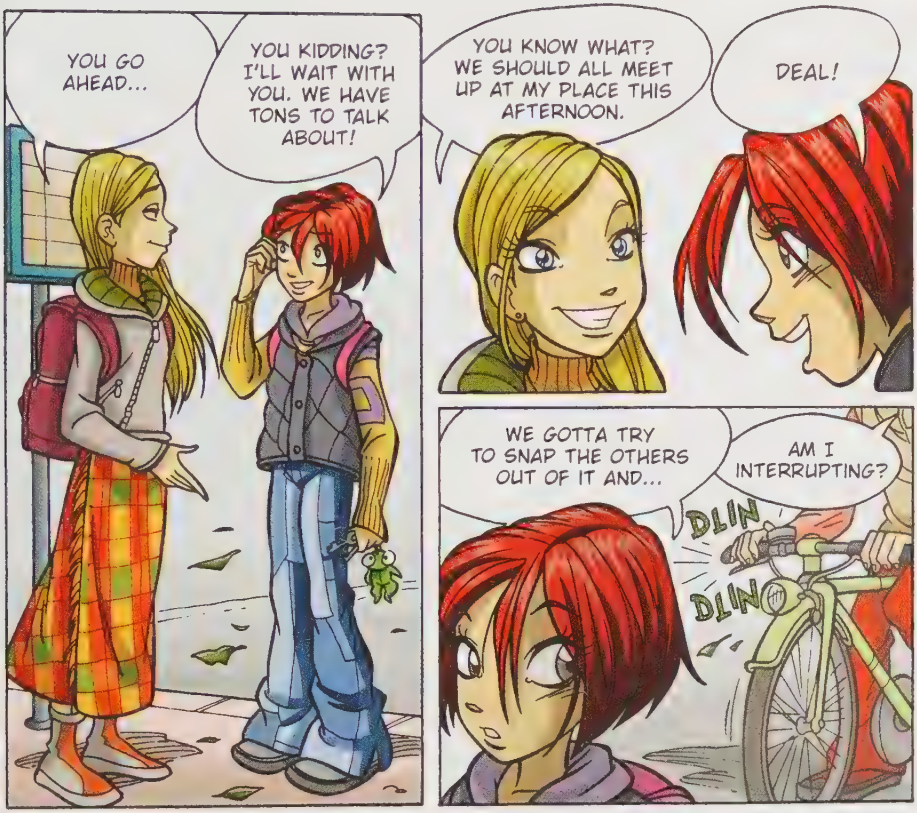
FOR INSTANCE, EVER SEEN *THAT GUY* BEFORE?
I SURE HAVE! HE'S NEW. HE JUST MOVED HERE.
WELL, HE *SMILED* AT ME.
THAT WAS A *GRIMACE*. HIS FRIEND JUST ELBOWED HIM!
STILL, HE LOOKED AT ME.
TRUE, HE'S STILL PEEKING!
CORNELIA, PLEASE TELL ME THIS ISN'T NORMAL.
IT'S NOT! THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON, AND TARANEE'S NOT IMMUNE EITHER. LOOK, SHE JUST SAW NIGEL AND WENT ALL GOOEY!
UH-OH! HERE COMES TROUBLE. THERE'S HER MOM.
SHE *BANNED* HER FROM SEEING NIGEL. WE GOTTA DO SOMETHING!

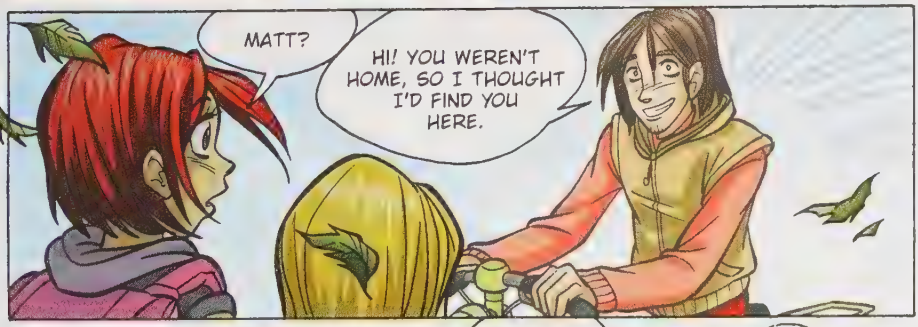
Like what, Cornelia?
Let's distract her. If she notices, Taranee's toast!
HELLO, MA'AM! ARE YOU LOOKNG FOR TARANEE?
I CAME TO PICK HER UP. I CAN'T SEE HER IN THIS CROWD.
I THINK SHE ALREADY LEFT...RIGHT, WILL?
RIGHT! SHE WENT OFF WITH IRMA.
GIRLS, WHAT DO I DO FOR A LIVING?
YOU'RE A...UH... JUDGE?
PRECISELY. AND I CAN SEE STRAIGHT THROUGH LIES!
BUT WE'RE NOT LIARS.
OF COURSE NOT. YOU'RE LOYAL FRIENDS, WHICH IS WORSE! NOW EXCUSE ME...

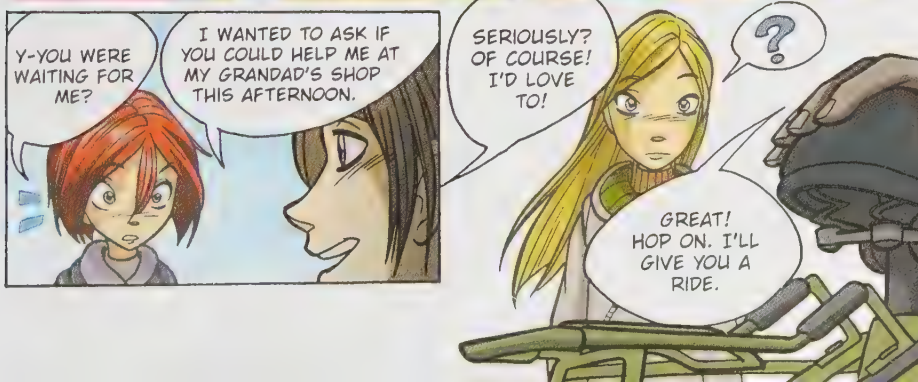
TARANEE!
MOM, I...
WE'RE LATE, AND I'VE STILL GOT PLENTY OF ERRANDS TO RUN. HI, NIGEL!
TARANEE AND I HAVE TO LEAVE RIGHT NOW, IF THAT'S OKAY WITH YOU?
ER— OF COURSE, MA'AM! WE...
ARE YOU MAD?
YESTERDAY, I HAD A LONG TALK WITH YOUR DAD.
HE CONVINCED ME TO GIVE THAT GUY A CHANCE.
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
TONIGHT, WE'LL GET PIZZA AND A MOVIE. WANNA INVITE HIM OVER?
FOR REAL?

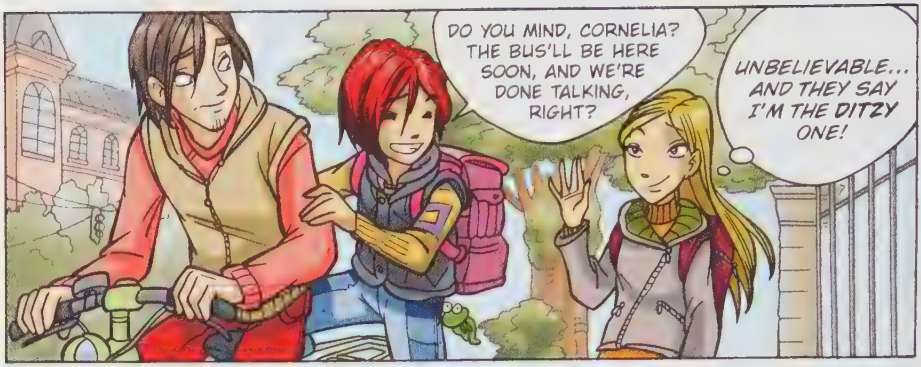
PROVIDED YOU WANT TO SPEND THE EVENING WITH TWO...
NIGEL! NIGEL!
...OLD FOGEYS.
NIGEL! OH, NIGEL!
A KISS! IN FRONT OF HER MOM! IN FRONT OF EVERYONE!
TARANEE'S SO HAPPY, SHE'S FORGOTTEN HER USUAL SHYNESS...
...AND WITH IT, EVERYTHING ELSE!

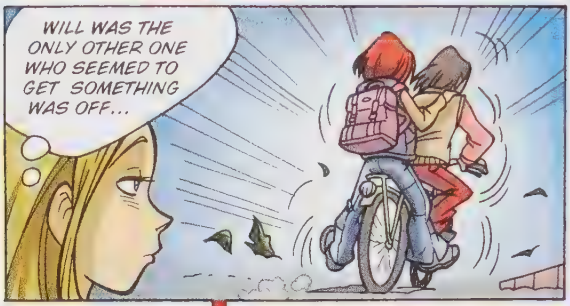

LATER, ON THE WAY HOME...
NO, THAT'S DEFINITELY NOT NORMAL.
I MEAN, I'M HAPPY FOR TARANEE, BUT...
I GET WHAT YOU MEAN, WILL.
DINNN
IT'S LIKE THE OTHERS ARE TAKING EVERYTHING TOO LIGHTLY.
MAYBE THIS IS THE LIFE WE DESERVE. DID YOU EVER THINK ABOUT THAT?
YOU MEAN... A LIFE WITHOUT POWERS?
SSSSHHH
A LIFE WITHOUT PROBLEMS! AND MAYBE IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME THING.
SSSSHHH
HUH? WHY'D YOU GET OFF AT MY STOP?
OOF...WHERE'S MY HEAD? I'LL WAIT FOR THE NEXT BUS.


YOU GO AHEAD...
YOU KIDDING? I'LL WAIT WITH YOU. WE HAVE TONS TO TALK ABOUT!
YOU KNOW WHAT? WE SHOULD ALL MEET UP AT MY PLACE THIS AFTERNOON.
DEAL!
WE GOTTA TRY TO SNAP THE OTHERS OUT OF IT AND...
AM I INTERRUPTING?
DLIN
DLIN

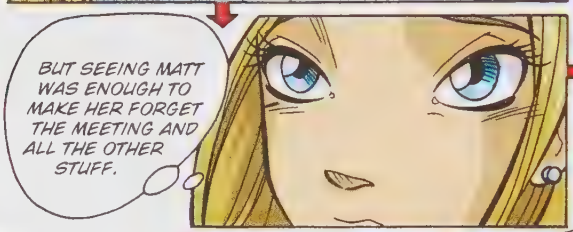

MATT?
HI! YOU WEREN'T HOME, SO I THOUGHT I'D FIND YOU HERE.

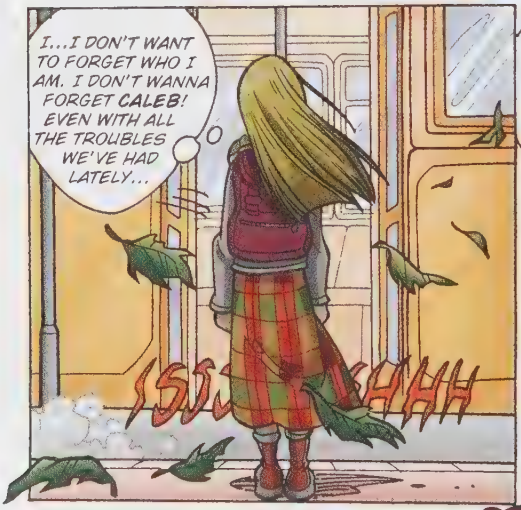

Y-YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME?
I WANTED TO ASK IF YOU COULD HELP ME AT MY GRANDAD'S SHOP THIS AFTERNOON.
SERIOUSLY? OF COURSE! I'D LOVE TO!
?
GREAT! HOP ON. I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE.

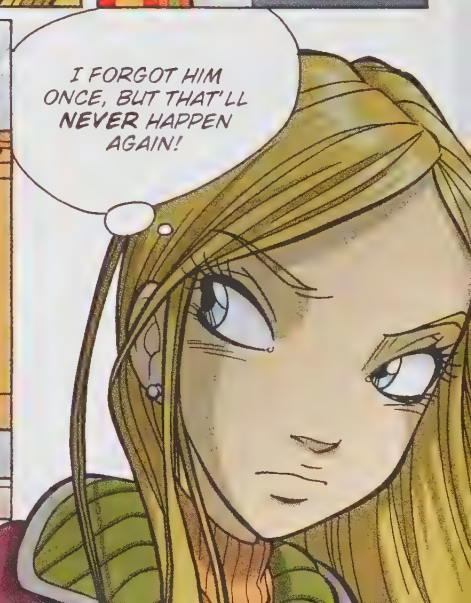

DO YOU MIND, CORNELIA? THE BUS'LL BE HERE SOON, AND WE'RE DONE TALKING, RIGHT?
UNBELIEVABLE... AND THEY SAY I'M THE DITZY ONE!


WILL WAS THE ONLY OTHER ONE WHO SEEMED TO GET SOMETHING WAS OFF...

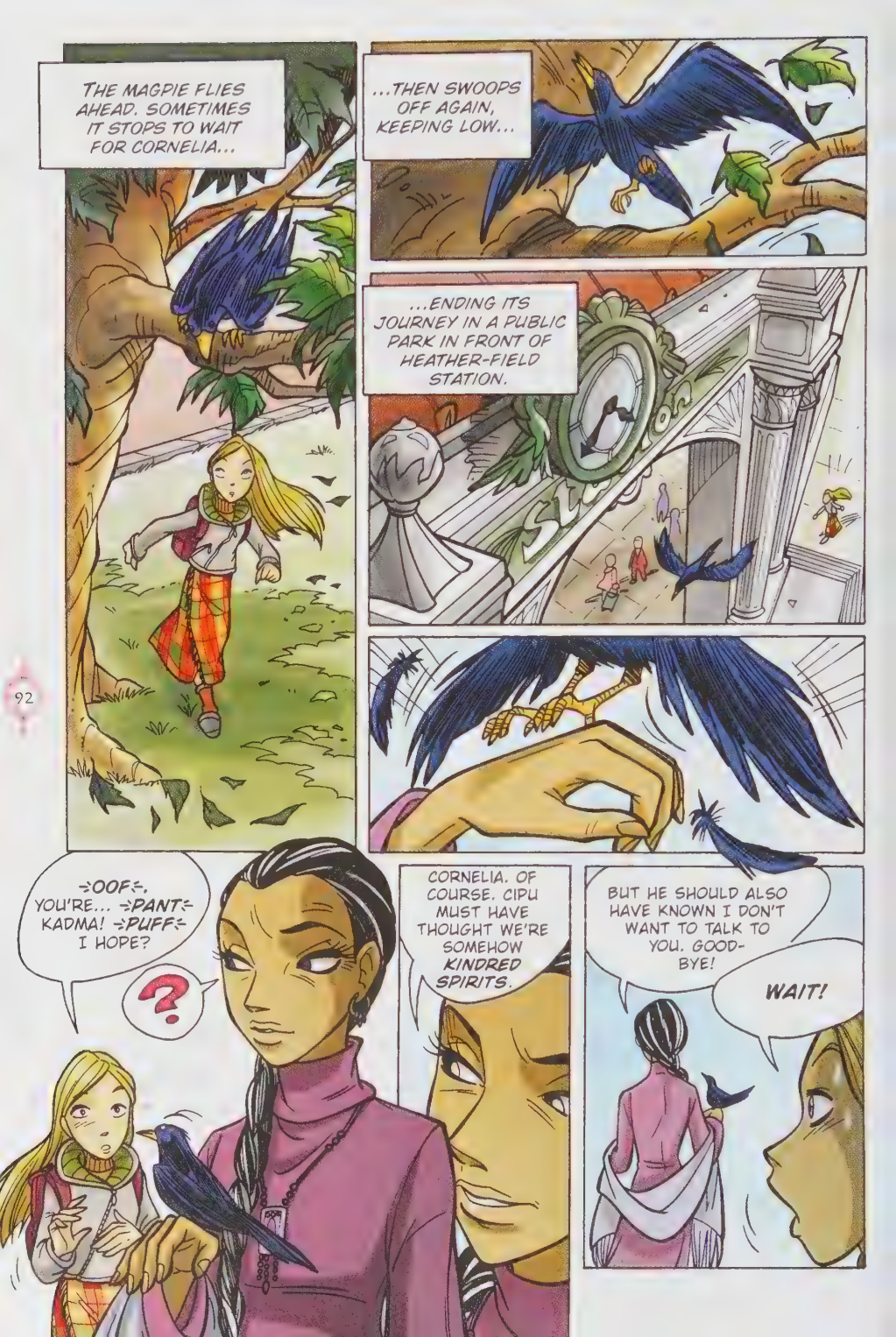
IT'S AS IF THEY'RE FORGETTING THEIR ROLE. THEIR MISSION!


BUT SEEING MATT WAS ENOUGH TO MAKE HER FORGET THE MEETING AND ALL THE OTHER STUFF.

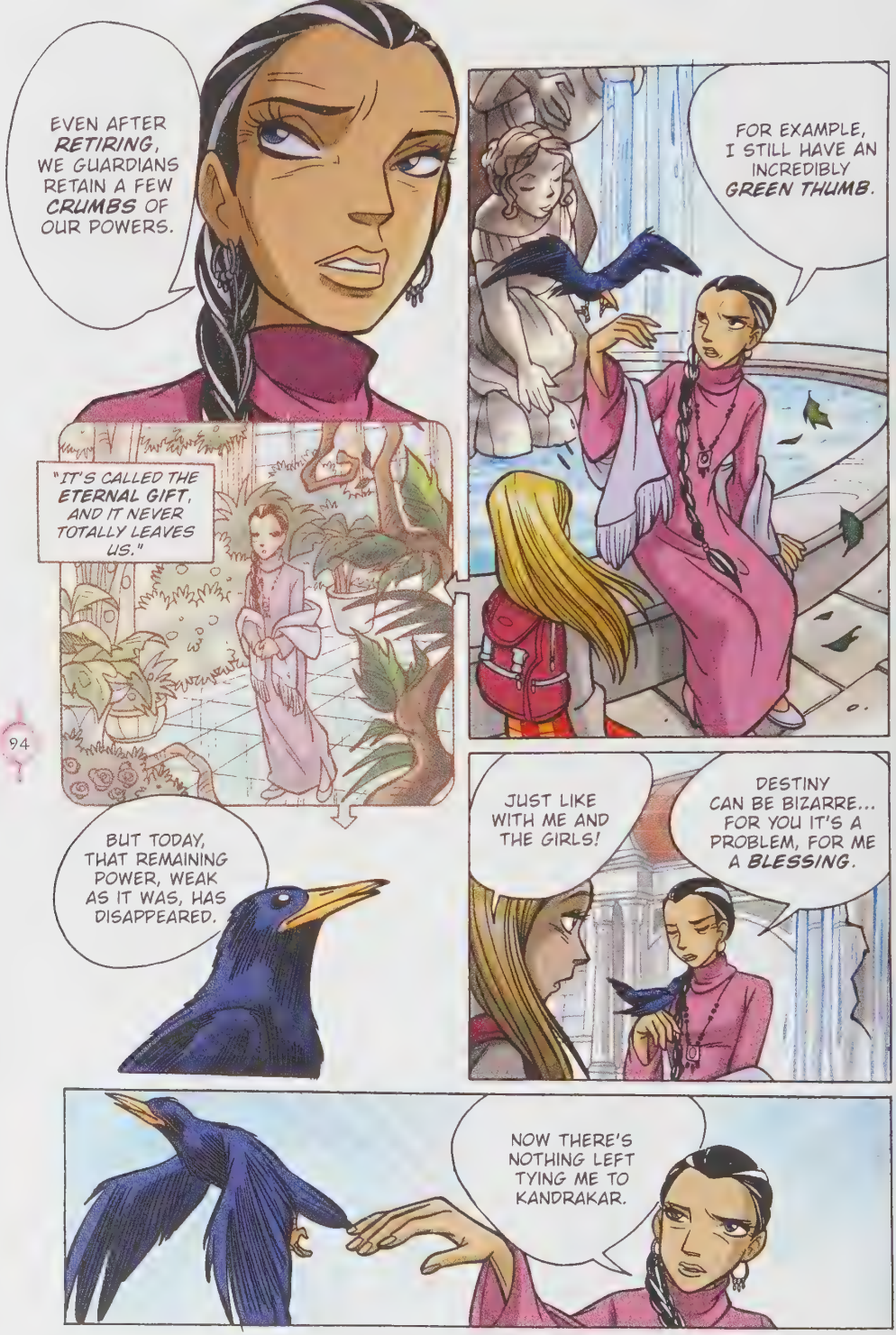

I...I DON'T WANT TO FORGET WHO I AM. I DON'T WANNA FORGET CALEB! EVEN WITH ALL THE TROUBLES WE'VE HAD LATELY...
SSU... UHHH


I FORGOT HIM ONCE, BUT THAT'LL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN!

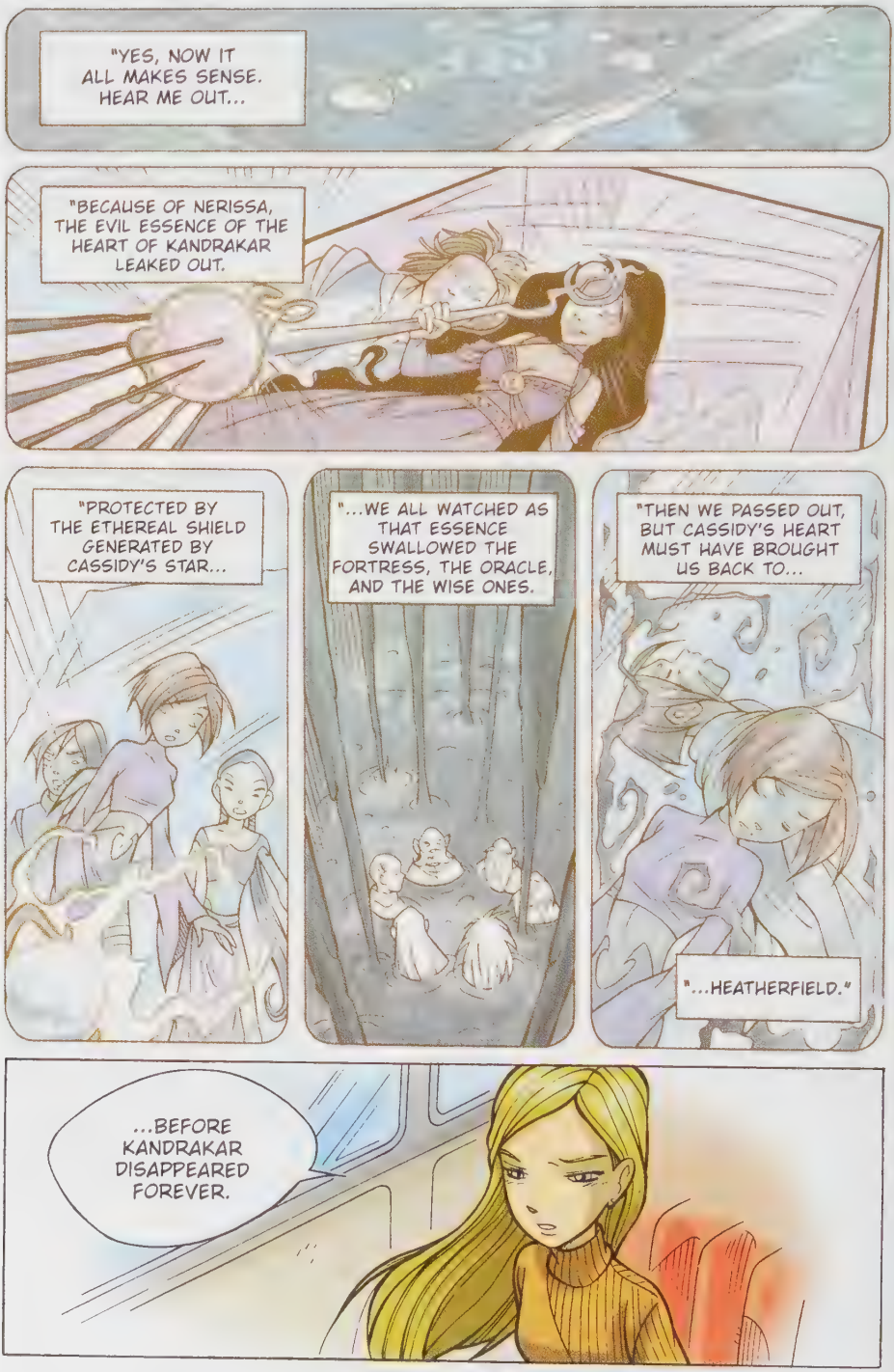
I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS NOW, BUT...
CIPU
33
?
FWIIIIII
THAT'S CIPU, KADMA'S MAGPIE! THAT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE.
ISSSHHH
YEAH, THERE'S GOTTA BE A SPELL OR SOMETHING BEHIND ALL THIS.
CORNELIA FOLLOWS CIPU AND HOPES. THE FORMER SKEPTIC OF THE GROUP...
...TODAY WANTS TO BELIEVE IN MAGIC—WITH ALL HER HEART.

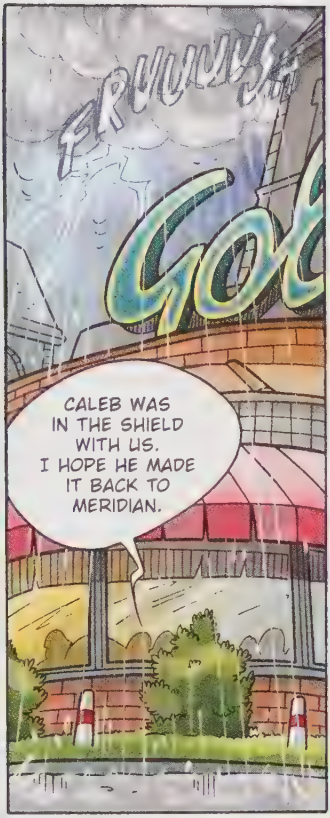

THE MAGPIE FLIES AHEAD. SOMETIMES IT STOPS TO WAIT FOR CORNELIA...
...THEN SWOOPS OFF AGAIN, KEEPING LOW...
...ENDING ITS JOURNEY IN A PUBLIC PARK IN FRONT OF HEATHER-FIELD STATION.
÷OOF÷. YOU'RE... ÷PANT÷ KADMA! ÷PUFF÷ I HOPE?
?
CORNELIA. OF COURSE. CIPU MUST HAVE THOUGHT WE'RE SOMEHOW KINDRED SPIRITS.
BUT HE SHOULD ALSO HAVE KNOWN I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU. GOOD-BYE!
WAIT!

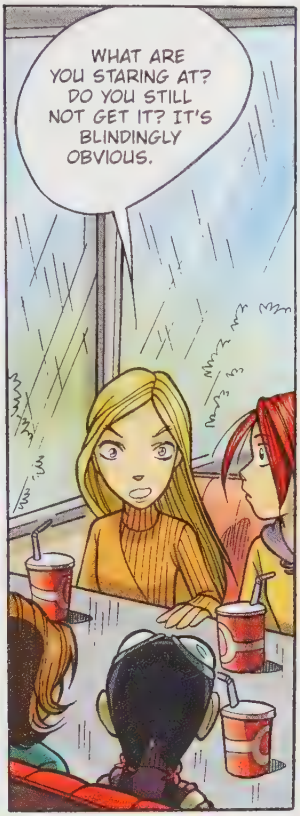
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, BUT I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY!
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP ME, YOU'RE SORELY MISTAKEN.
ONCE, I HAD YOUR SAME POWER. THE POWER OF EARTH.
LIKE YOU SAID, ONCE...AND NOW WE'RE EVEN!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT I SAID. MY MAGIC'S GONE TOO.
MAY THE STARS HELP US. I...I HAVE TO SIT DOWN.
WHAT'S GOING ON? DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING?
I BARELY KNOW WHY I'M IN THIS CITY. I NEVER LEAVE MY HOME.
YOU MEAN THE RISING STAR FOUNDATION IN FADDEN HILLS?
YES. THE FACT IS, SOMETHING HAPPENED, AND I WANTED TO TALK TO WILL IN PERSON.

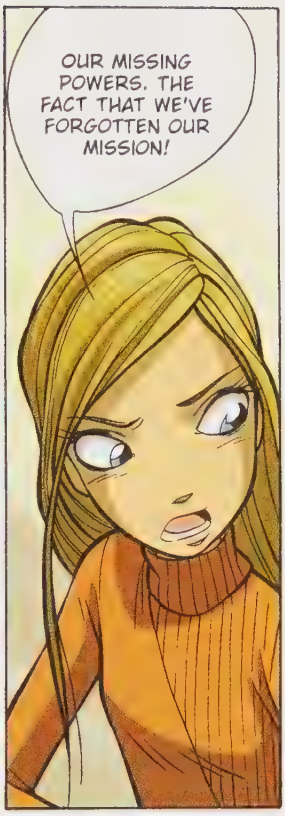

EVEN AFTER RETIRING, WE GUARDIANS RETAIN A FEW CRUMBS OF OUR POWERS.
"IT'S CALLED THE ETERNAL GIFT, AND IT NEVER TOTALLY LEAVES US."
FOR EXAMPLE, I STILL HAVE AN INCREDIBLY GREEN THUMB.
BUT TODAY, THAT REMAINING POWER, WEAK AS IT WAS, HAS DISAPPEARED.
JUST LIKE WITH ME AND THE GIRLS!
DESTINY CAN BE BIZARRE... FOR YOU IT'S A PROBLEM, FOR ME A BLESSING.
NOW THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TYING ME TO KANDRAKAR.

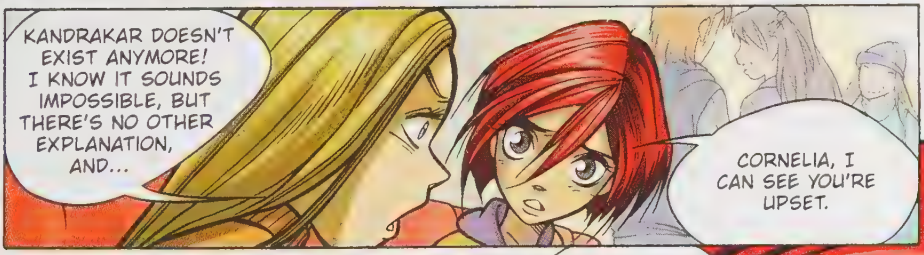
FIRST, THE GIRLS FORGET EVERYTHING, AND NOW YOU...
FORGET?
YEAH, THEY ACT AS IF THEY COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT OUR POWERS. AS IF...
...AS IF THEY'D NEVER FELT MAGICAL, YOU MEAN?
THEN IT HAPPENED. I DIDN'T THINK IT COULD, BUT THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION...
THEN WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, CORNELIA? YET IT'S TERRIBLY SIMPLE...
...KANDRAKAR IS GONE!
A SHORT TIME LATER...


"YES, NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE. HEAR ME OUT...
"BECAUSE OF NERISSA, THE EVIL ESSENCE OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR LEAKED OUT.
"PROTECTED BY THE ETHEREAL SHIELD GENERATED BY CASSIDY'S STAR...
"...WE ALL WATCHED AS THAT ESSENCE SWALLOWED THE FORTRESS, THE ORACLE, AND THE WISE ONES.
"THEN WE PASSED OUT, BUT CASSIDY'S HEART MUST HAVE BROUGHT US BACK TO...
"...HEATHERFIELD."
...BEFORE KANDRAKAR DISAPPEARED FOREVER.


CALEB WAS IN THE SHIELD WITH US. I HOPE HE MADE IT BACK TO MERIDIAN.

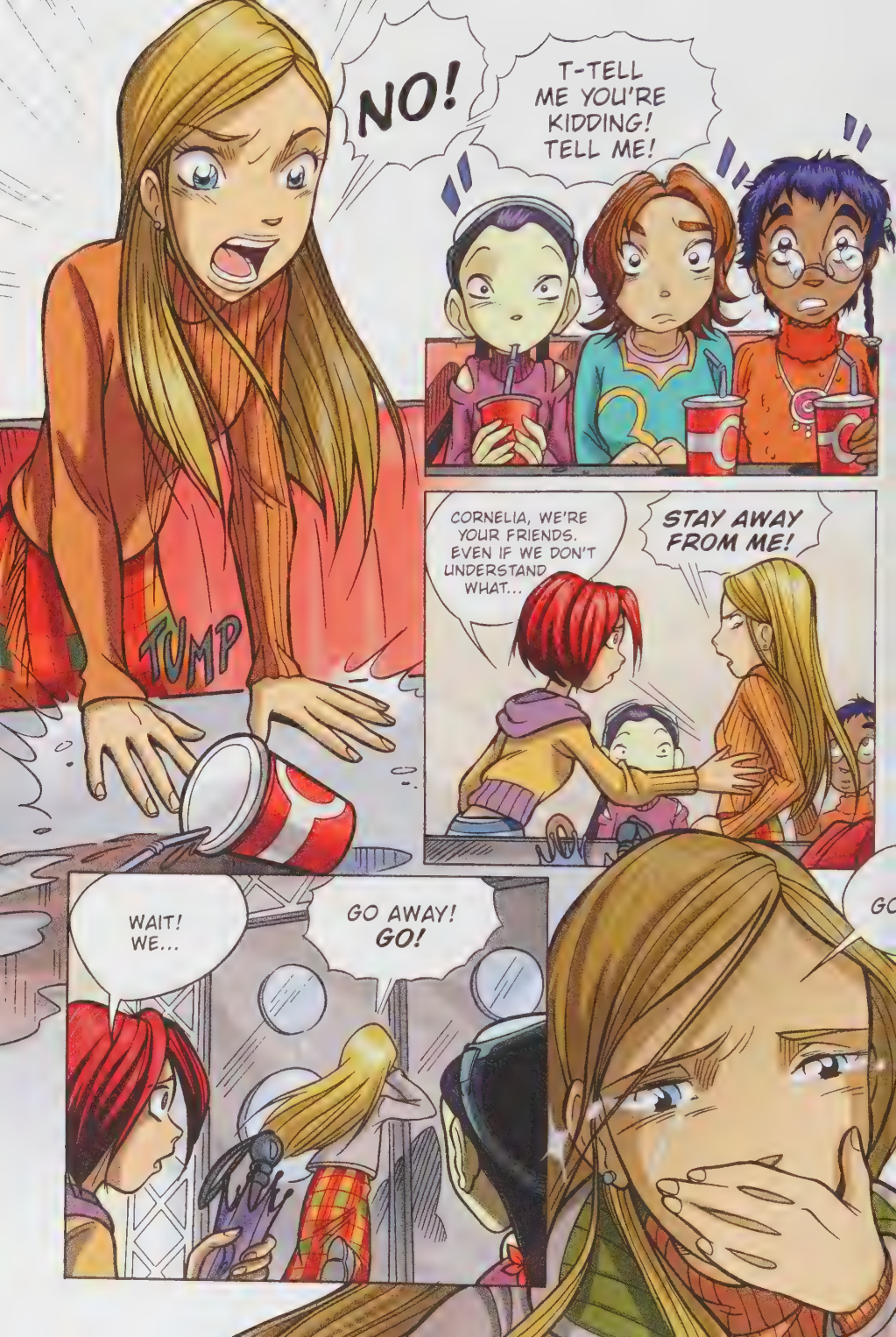

WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT? DO YOU STILL NOT GET IT? IT'S BLINDINGLY OBVIOUS.


OUR MISSING POWERS. THE FACT THAT WE'VE FORGOTTEN OUR MISSION!

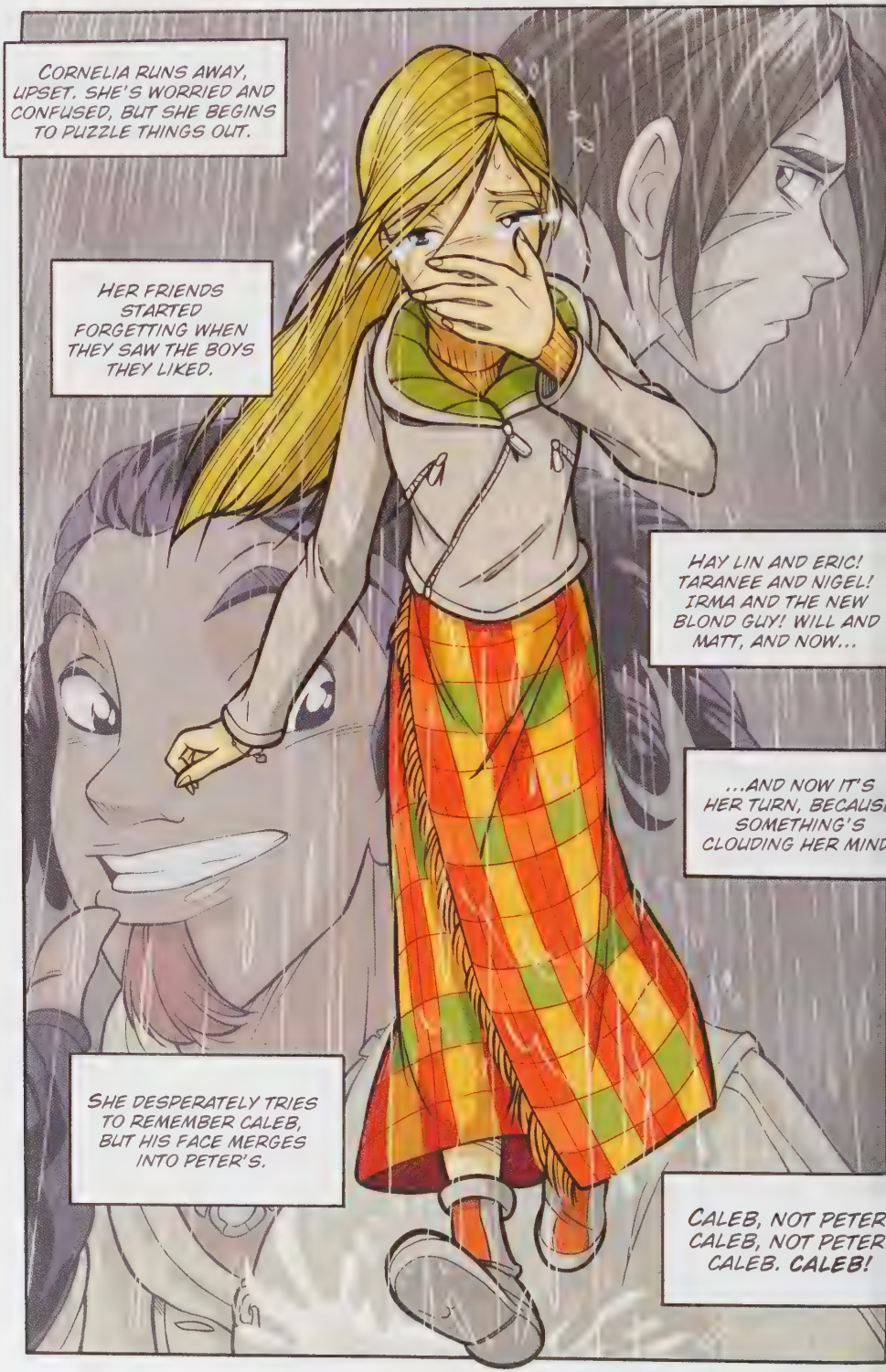

KANDRAKAR DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE! I KNOW IT SOUNDS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION, AND...
CORNELIA, I CAN SEE YOU'RE UPSET.

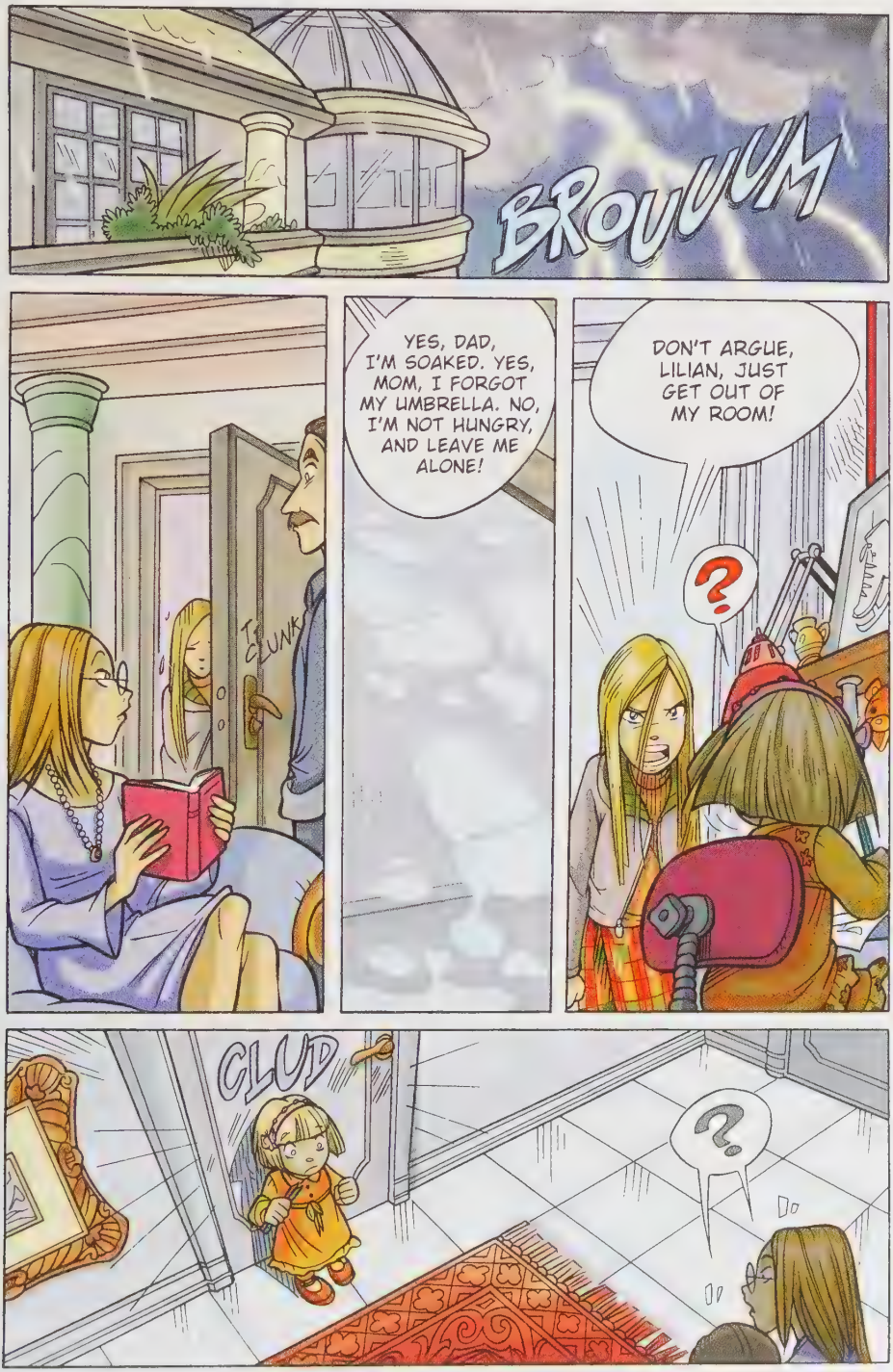
BUT YOU'VE LOST ME, SO I THINK...UM... I SHOULD ASK A FEW QUESTIONS, LIKE...
COKE

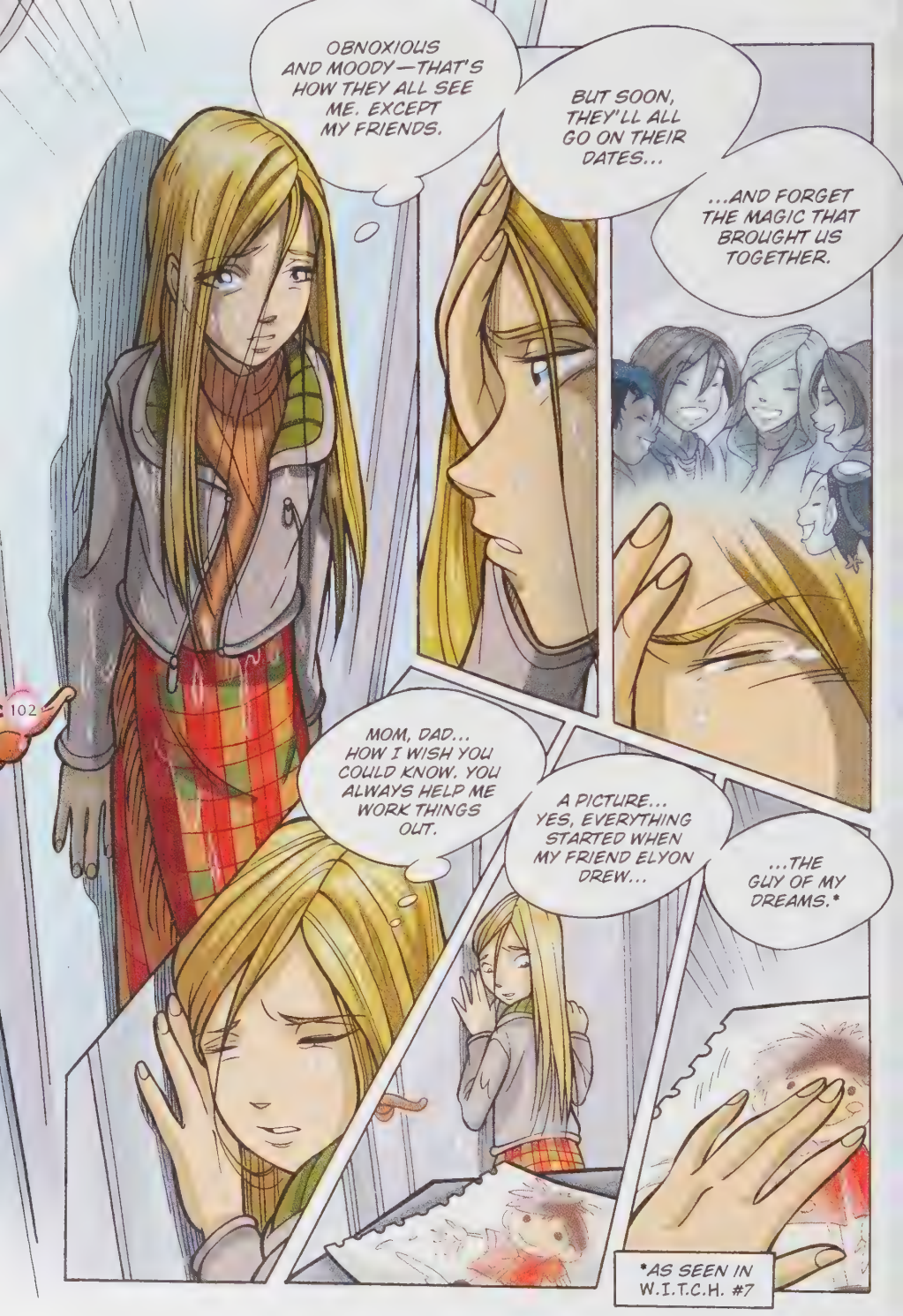
...WHAT'S KANDRAKAR?

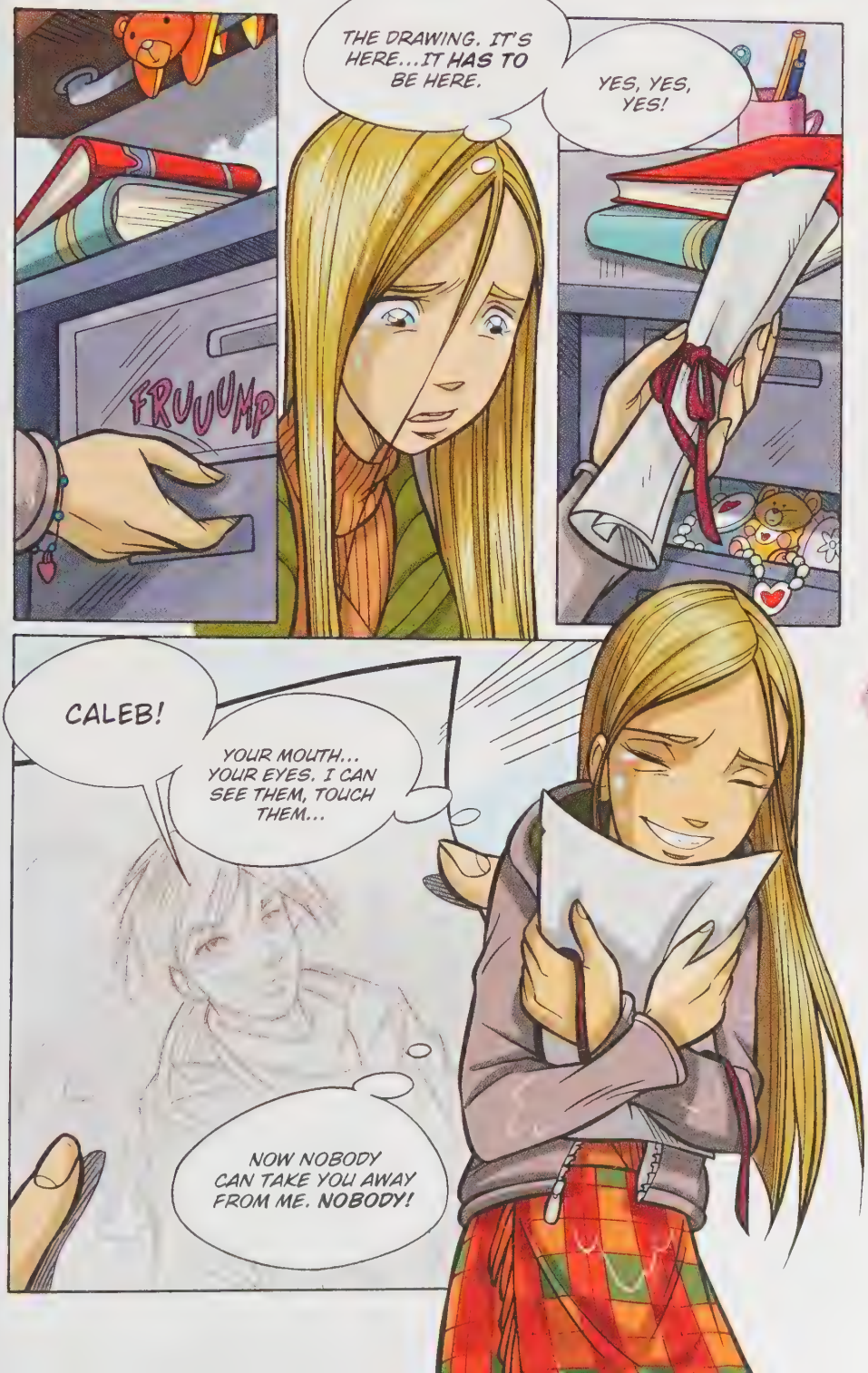

NO!
T-TELL ME YOU'RE KIDDING! TELL ME!
JUMP
CORNELIA, WE'RE YOUR FRIENDS. EVEN IF WE DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT...
STAY AWAY FROM ME!
WAIT! WE...
GO AWAY! GO!

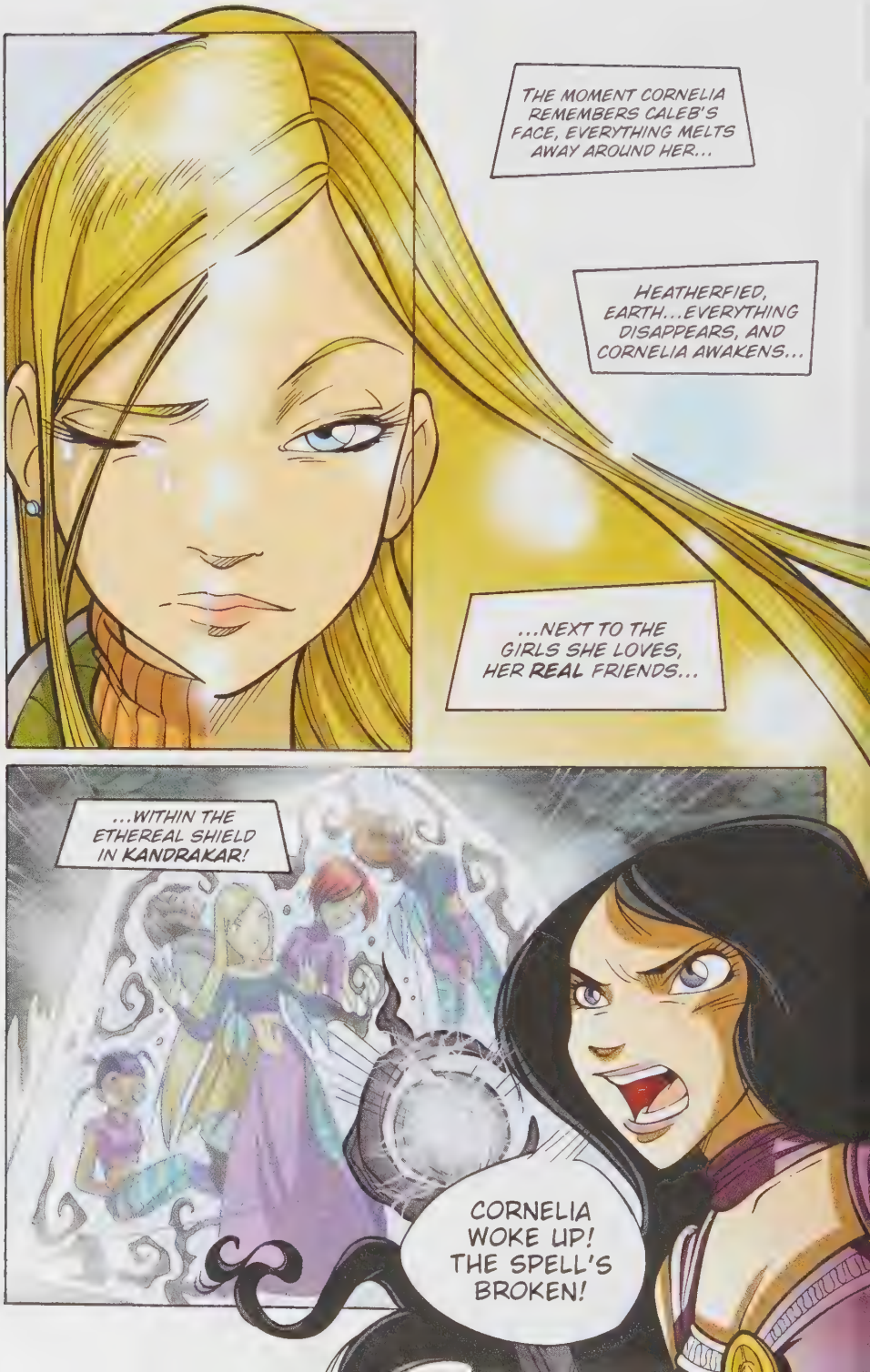
EVERYTHING... THEY'VE FORGOTTEN EVERYTHING! I'M THE ONLY ONE LEFT WHO KNOWS THE TRUTH!
CORNELIA!
P-PETER?
YOU OKAY? YOU SEEM UPSET.
I'M F-FINE... IF...IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR YOUR SISTER, SHE'S AT THE GOLDEN.
GREAT! I GOTTA TALK TO HER ABOUT TONIGHT. NIGEL'S COMING OVER, AND...
...MOM ASKED ME TO RENT A MOVIE, SO I...I...
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

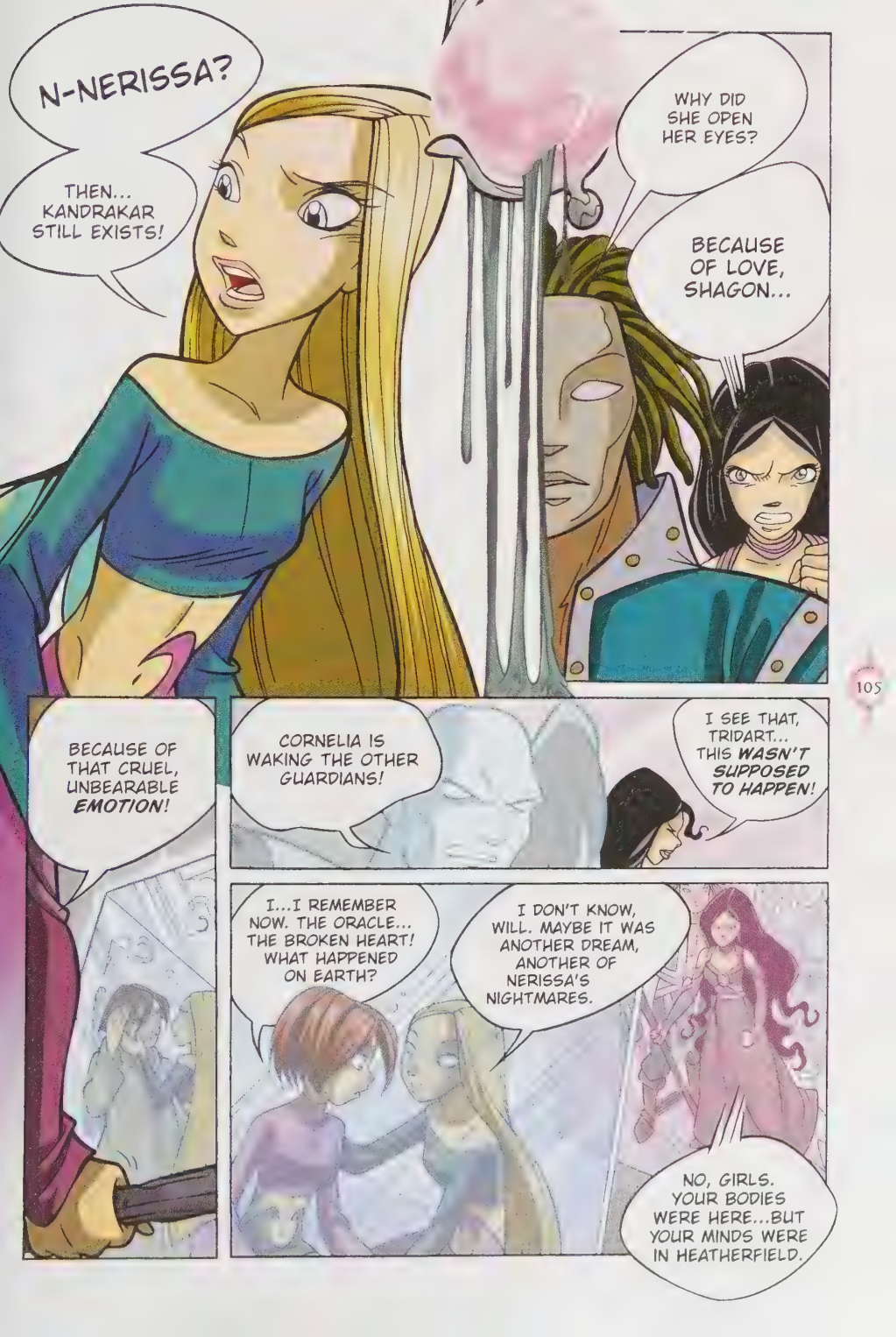

CORNELIA RUNS AWAY, UPSET. SHE'S WORRIED AND CONFUSED, BUT SHE BEGINS TO PUZZLE THINGS OUT.
HER FRIENDS STARTED FORGETTING WHEN THEY SAW THE BOYS THEY LIKED.
HAY LIN AND ERIC! TARANEE AND NIGEL! IRMA AND THE NEW BLOND GUY! WILL AND MATT, AND NOW...
...AND NOW IT'S HER TURN, BECAUSE SOMETHING'S CLOUDING HER MIND
SHE DESPERATELY TRIES TO REMEMBER CALEB, BUT HIS FACE MERGES INTO PETER'S.
CALEB, NOT PETER. CALEB, NOT PETER. CALEB. CALEB!


BROUUUM
CLUNK
YES, DAD, I'M SOAKED. YES, MOM, I FORGOT MY UMBRELLA. NO, I'M NOT HUNGRY, AND LEAVE ME ALONE!
DON'T ARGUE, LILIAN, JUST GET OUT OF MY ROOM!
?
CLUD
?

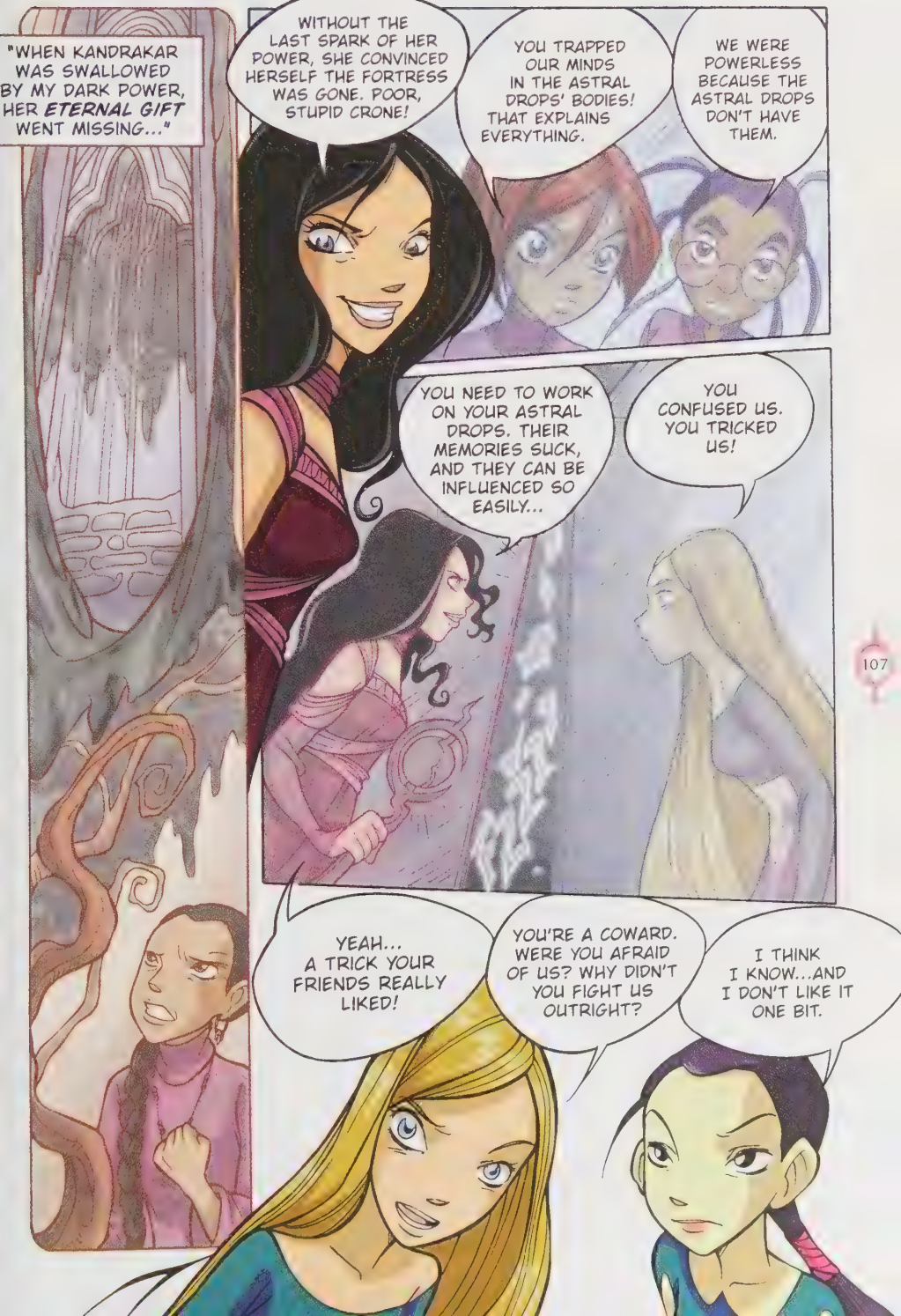

OBNOXIOUS AND MOODY—THAT'S HOW THEY ALL SEE ME. EXCEPT MY FRIENDS.
BUT SOON, THEY'LL ALL GO ON THEIR DATES...
...AND FORGET THE MAGIC THAT BROUGHT US TOGETHER.
MOM, DAD... HOW I WISH YOU COULD KNOW. YOU ALWAYS HELP ME WORK THINGS OUT.
A PICTURE... YES, EVERYTHING STARTED WHEN MY FRIEND ELYON DREW...
...THE GUY OF MY DREAMS.*
*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #7

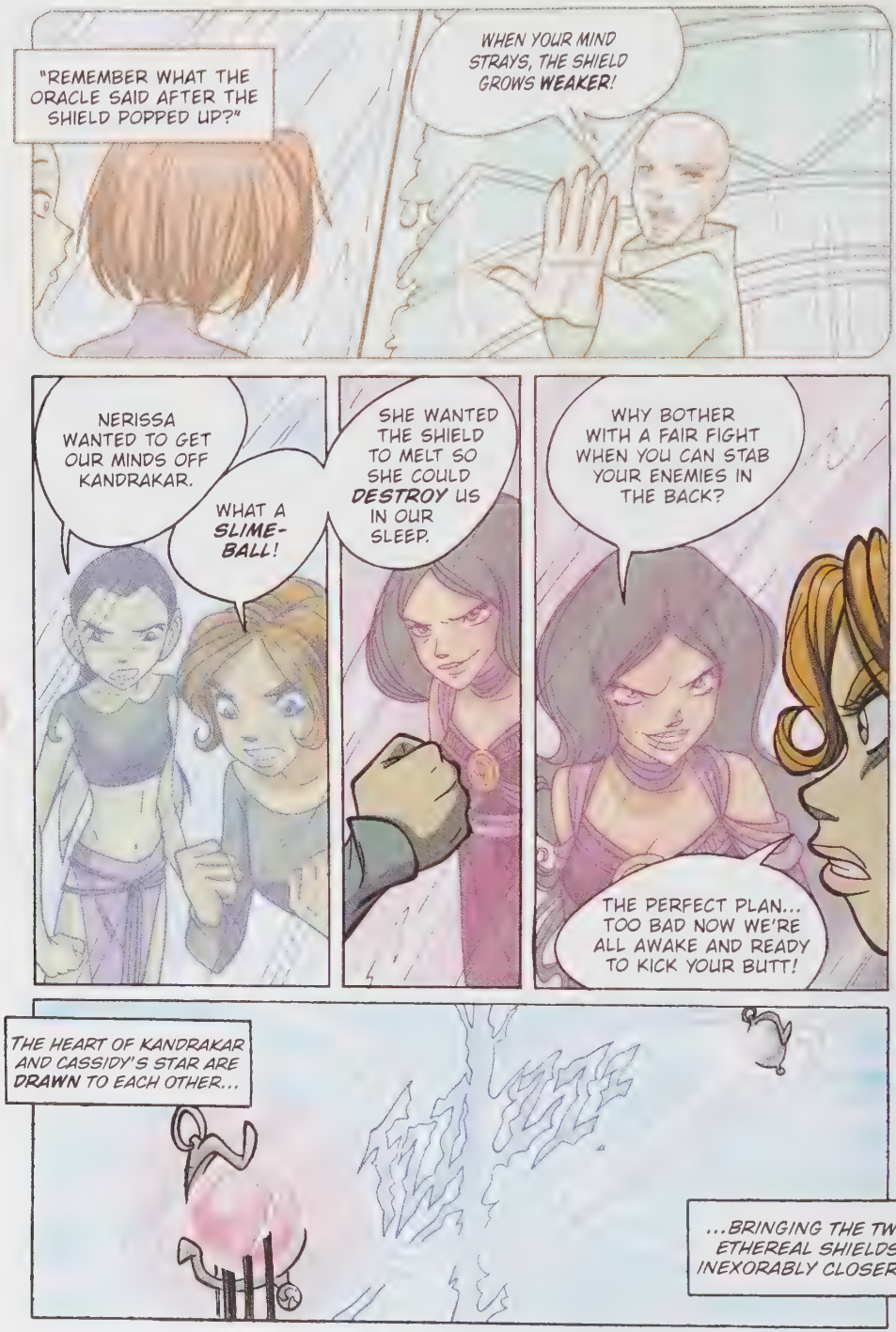

FRUUUMP
THE DRAWING. IT'S HERE...IT HAS TO BE HERE.
YES, YES, YES!
CALEB!
YOUR MOUTH... YOUR EYES. I CAN SEE THEM, TOUCH THEM...
NOW NOBODY CAN TAKE YOU AWAY FROM ME. NOBODY!

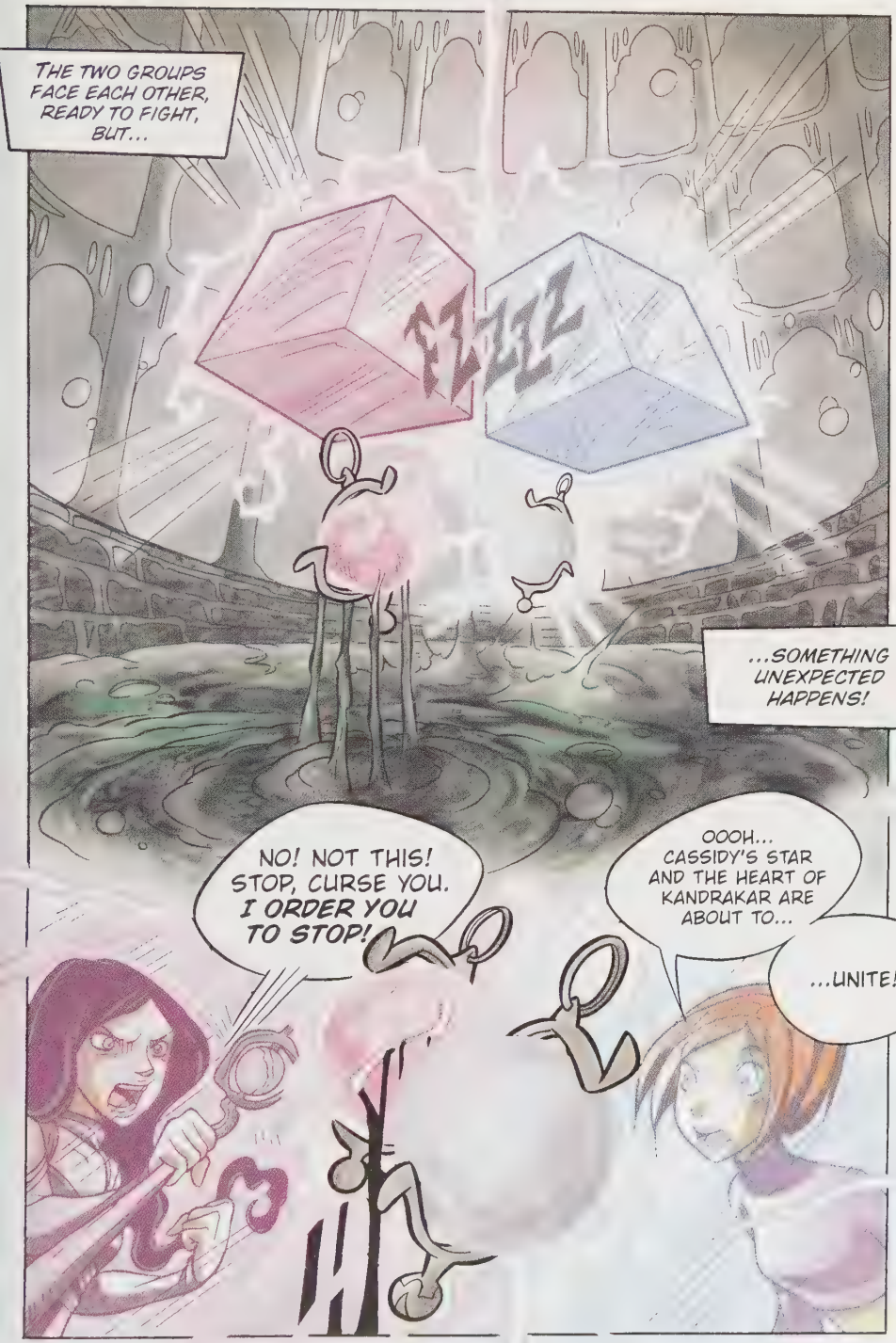

THE MOMENT CORNELIA REMEMBERS CALEB'S FACE, EVERYTHING MELTS AWAY AROUND HER...
HEATHERFIED, EARTH...EVERYTHING DISAPPEARS, AND CORNELIA AWAKENS...
...NEXT TO THE GIRLS SHE LOVES, HER REAL FRIENDS...
...WITHIN THE ETHEREAL SHIELD IN KANDRAKAR!
CORNELIA WOKE UP! THE SPELL'S BROKEN!


N-NERISSA?
THEN... KANDRAKAR STILL EXISTS!
WHY DID SHE OPEN HER EYES?
BECAUSE OF LOVE, SHAGON...
BECAUSE OF THAT CRUEL, UNBEARABLE EMOTION!
CORNELIA IS WAKING THE OTHER GUARDIANS!
I SEE THAT, TRIDART... THIS WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN!
I...I REMEMBER NOW. THE ORACLE... THE BROKEN HEART! WHAT HAPPENED ON EARTH?
I DON'T KNOW, WILL. MAYBE IT WAS ANOTHER DREAM, ANOTHER OF NERISSA'S NIGHTMARES.
NO, GIRLS. YOUR BODIES WERE HERE...BUT YOUR MINDS WERE IN HEATHERFIELD.

BEFORE COMING TO KANDRAKAR, YOU CREATED YOUR DOUBLES.
YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE SAFE BEHIND YOUR SHIELD, BUT MY MAGIC REACHED YOU... AND LURED YOU INTO A DEEP SLEEP.
THEN I TRANSFERRED YOUR MINDS INTO THE BODIES OF YOUR ASTRAL DROPS.
THEN... WHAT WE EXPERIENCED IN HEATHERFIELD WAS...
THEN THAT NEW GUY REALLY WINKED AT ME! AH-HA!
IT WAS REAL, WILL. YOU WERE MEANT TO BELIEVE IT.
AND MY MOM SAW ME KISSING NIGEL!
EVERYTHING WAS GOING WELL. EVEN KADMA UNWITTINGLY HELPED ME!

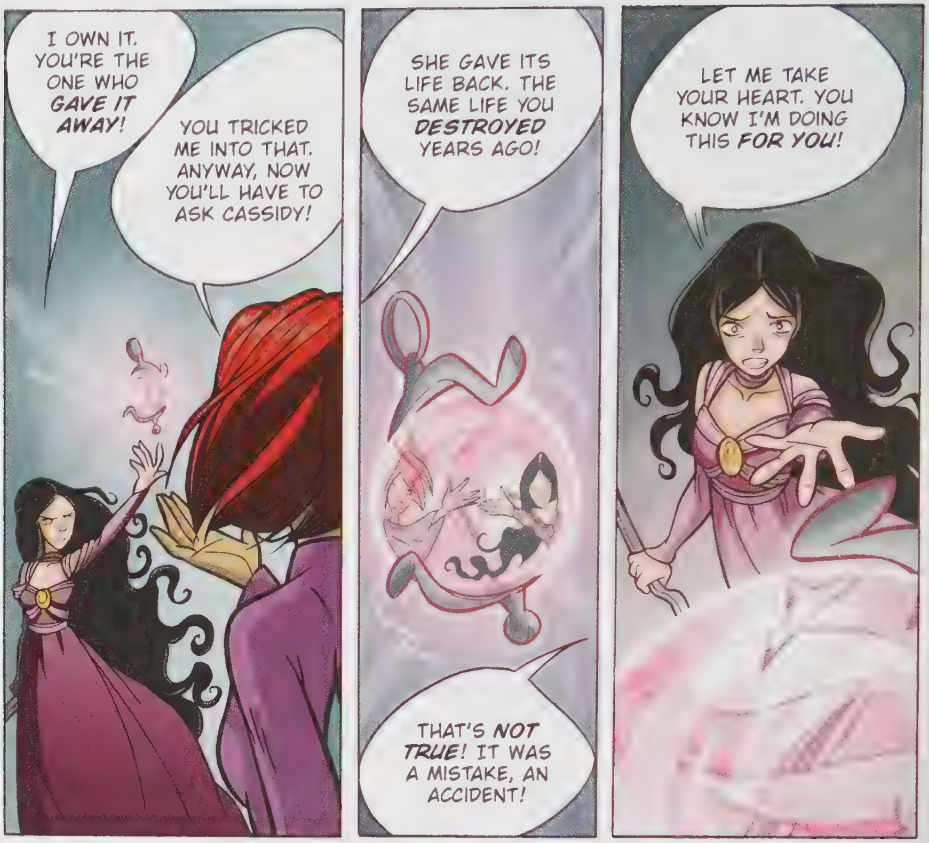

"WHEN KANDRAKAR WAS SWALLOWED BY MY DARK POWER, HER ETERNAL GIFT WENT MISSING..."
WITHOUT THE LAST SPARK OF HER POWER, SHE CONVINCED HERSELF THE FORTRESS WAS GONE. POOR, STUPID CRONE!
YOU TRAPPED OUR MINDS IN THE ASTRAL DROPS' BODIES! THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING.
WE WERE POWERLESS BECAUSE THE ASTRAL DROPS DON'T HAVE THEM.
YOU NEED TO WORK ON YOUR ASTRAL DROPS. THEIR MEMORIES SUCK, AND THEY CAN BE INFLUENCED SO EASILY...
YOU CONFUSED US. YOU TRICKED US!
YEAH... A TRICK YOUR FRIENDS REALLY LIKED!
YOU'RE A COWARD. WERE YOU AFRAID OF US? WHY DIDN'T YOU FIGHT US OUTRIGHT?
I THINK I KNOW...AND I DON'T LIKE IT ONE BIT.


"REMEMBER WHAT THE ORACLE SAID AFTER THE SHIELD POPPED UP?"
WHEN YOUR MIND STRAYS, THE SHIELD GROWS **WEAKER**!
NERISSA WANTED TO GET OUR MINDS OFF KANDRAKAR.
WHAT A **SLIME-BALL**!
SHE WANTED THE SHIELD TO MELT SO SHE COULD **DESTROY** US IN OUR SLEEP.
WHY BOTHER WITH A FAIR FIGHT WHEN YOU CAN STAB YOUR ENEMIES IN THE BACK?
THE PERFECT PLAN... TOO BAD NOW WE'RE ALL AWAKE AND READY TO KICK YOUR BUTT!
THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR AND CASSIDY'S STAR ARE **DRAWN** TO EACH OTHER...
...BRINGING THE TWO ETHEREAL SHIELDS INEXORABLY CLOSER...


THE TWO GROUPS FACE EACH OTHER, READY TO FIGHT, BUT...
FZZZZ
...SOMETHING UNEXPECTED HAPPENS!
NO! NOT THIS! STOP, CURSE YOU. I ORDER YOU TO STOP!
OOOH... CASSIDY'S STAR AND THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR ARE ABOUT TO...
...UNITE!

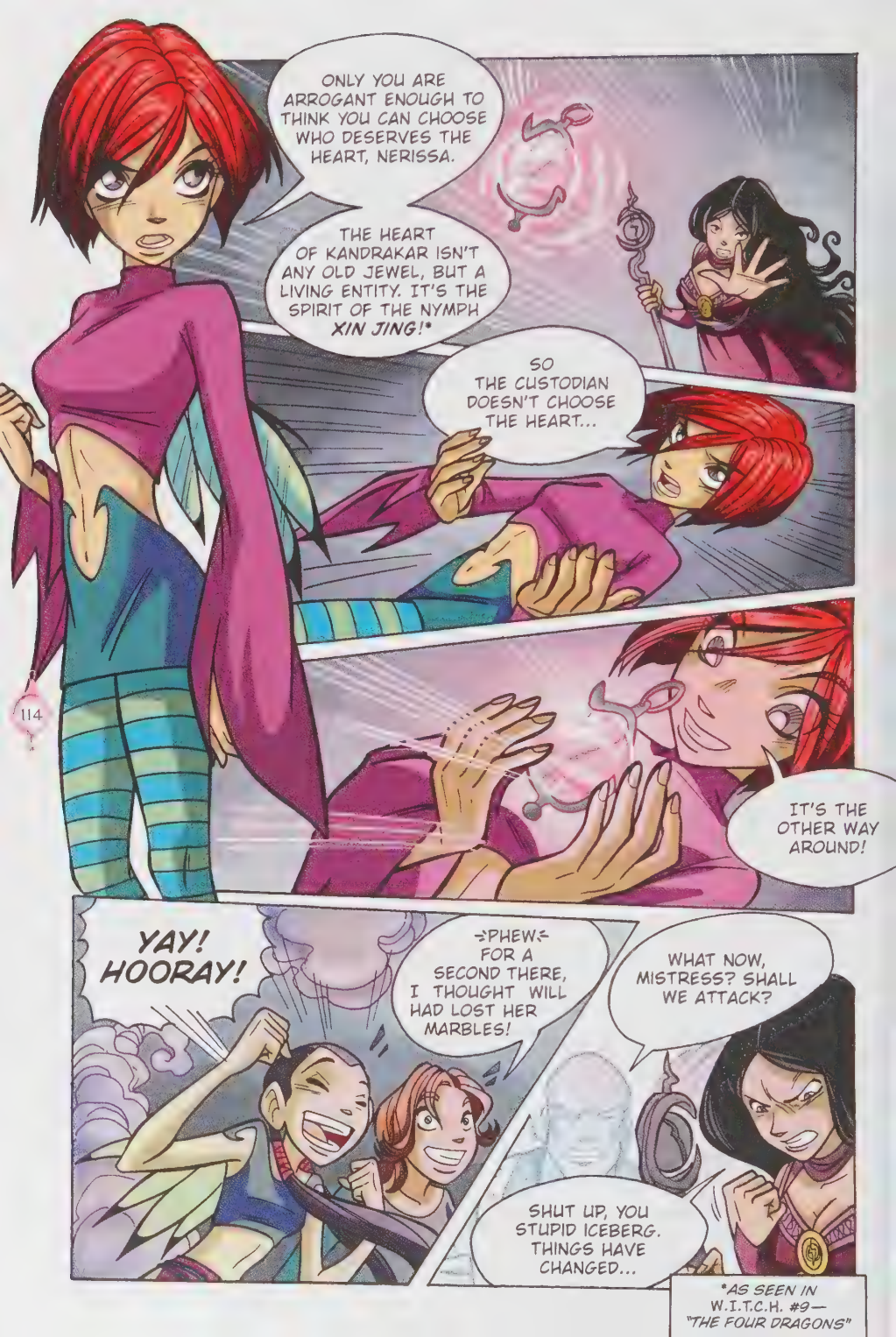
CASSIDY'S STAR AND THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR BECOME ONE...
...AND THE HEART'S TERRIBLE WOUND IS HEALED FOREVER!
THE SHIELDS ARE DISAPPEARING!
THEIR WORK IS DONE. THAT HORRIBLE BLACK DELUGE HAS STOPPED!
NOW IT'S TIME TO FIGHT!

SMART MOVE, GUARDIANS. TO EACH HER ADVERSARY!
BUT IN THIS BATTLE, THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR WILL MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.
AND IT'S STILL MINE!
?
HERE! COME BACK TO YOUR OWNER!
MAYBE IT STILL DOESN'T KNOW WHO IT BELONGS TO.


I OWN IT. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE IT AWAY!
YOU TRICKED ME INTO THAT. ANYWAY, NOW YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK CASSIDY!
SHE GAVE ITS LIFE BACK. THE SAME LIFE YOU DESTROYED YEARS AGO!
THAT'S NOT TRUE! IT WAS A MISTAKE, AN ACCIDENT!
LET ME TAKE YOUR HEART. YOU KNOW I'M DOING THIS FOR YOU!

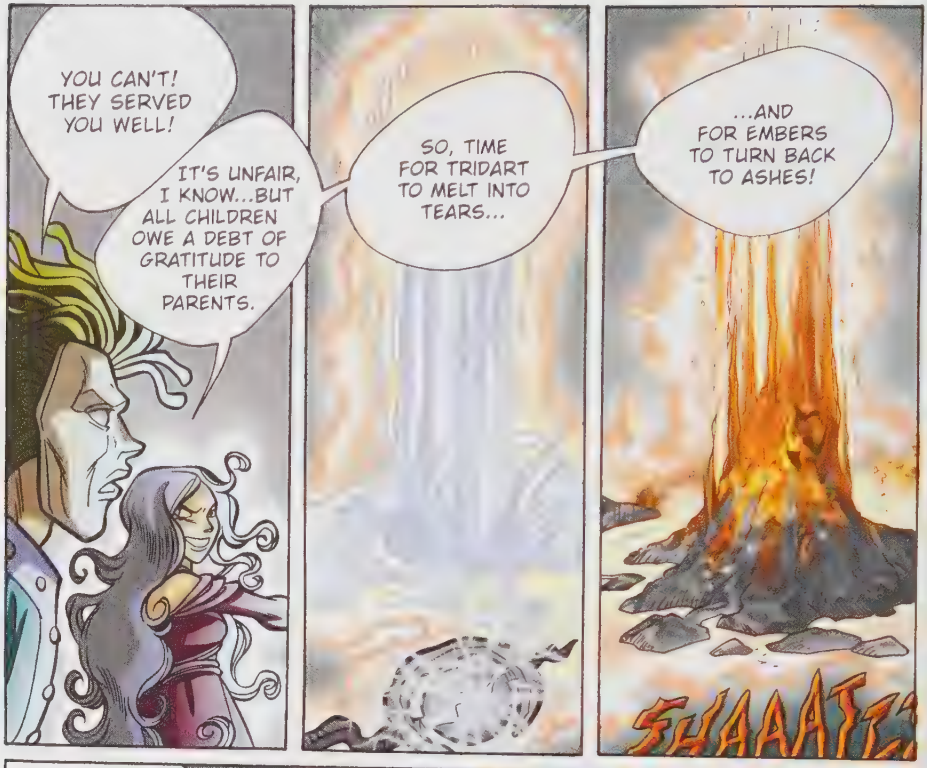
SERIOUSLY, YOU HEAR THAT?
IN A MISS SHAMELESS CONTEST, SHE'D WIN ALL THREE MEDALS...
LET HER SPEAK, GUYS. I WANNA HEAR WHAT SHE HAS TO SAY.
?
YES, WILL, LISTEN AND REFLECT! ONLY YOU AND I KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BEAR THE WEIGHT OF THAT JEWEL.

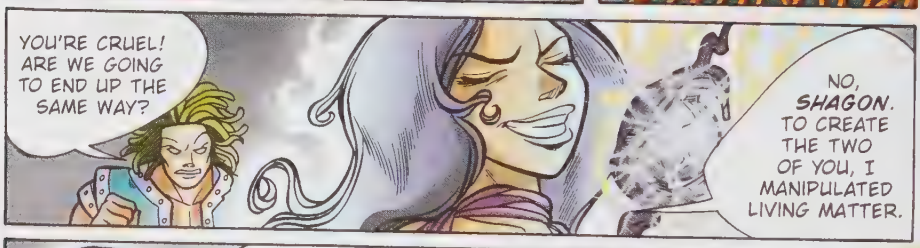
IN YOUR ASTRAL DROP'S BODY, IN HEATHERFIELD, YOU GOT A TASTE OF REAL LIFE!
"A LIFE WITHOUT POWERS, SURE...BUT ALSO WITHOUT SECRETS. A QUIET LIFE WITH YOUR MOM, WITH YOUR MATT..."
I CAN FREE YOU FROM THE BURDEN OF YOUR DUTY.
GIVE ME BACK THE HEART, WILL. YOU DESERVE A NORMAL LIFE!
MAYBE I DO, BUT I WON'T STOP CALLING THE HEART TO ME.
BEFORE HE DISAPPEARED, THE ORACLE TOLD ME SOMETHING ...
"FOLLOW...
"...THE CHOICE...
"...OF THE HEART!"
I'M IN! I CONVINCED HER.

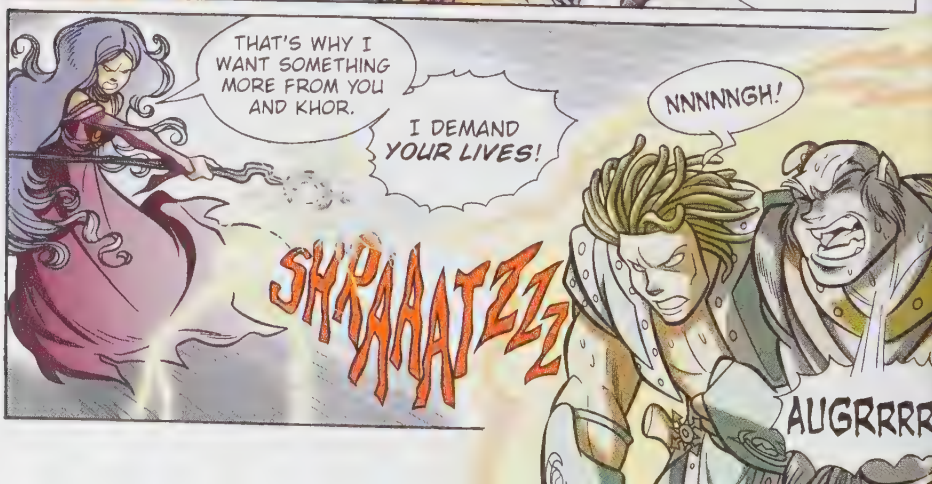


*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #9— "THE FOUR DRAGONS"

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WERE CREATED TO OBEY ME!
URRRRGH!
BUT NOW, WITH ONLY A COPY OF THE FIVE POWERS...
AAAH!
NO FAIR! I WAS SUPPOSED TO PUT HER OUT!
...I NEED ALL MY ENERGY BACK!

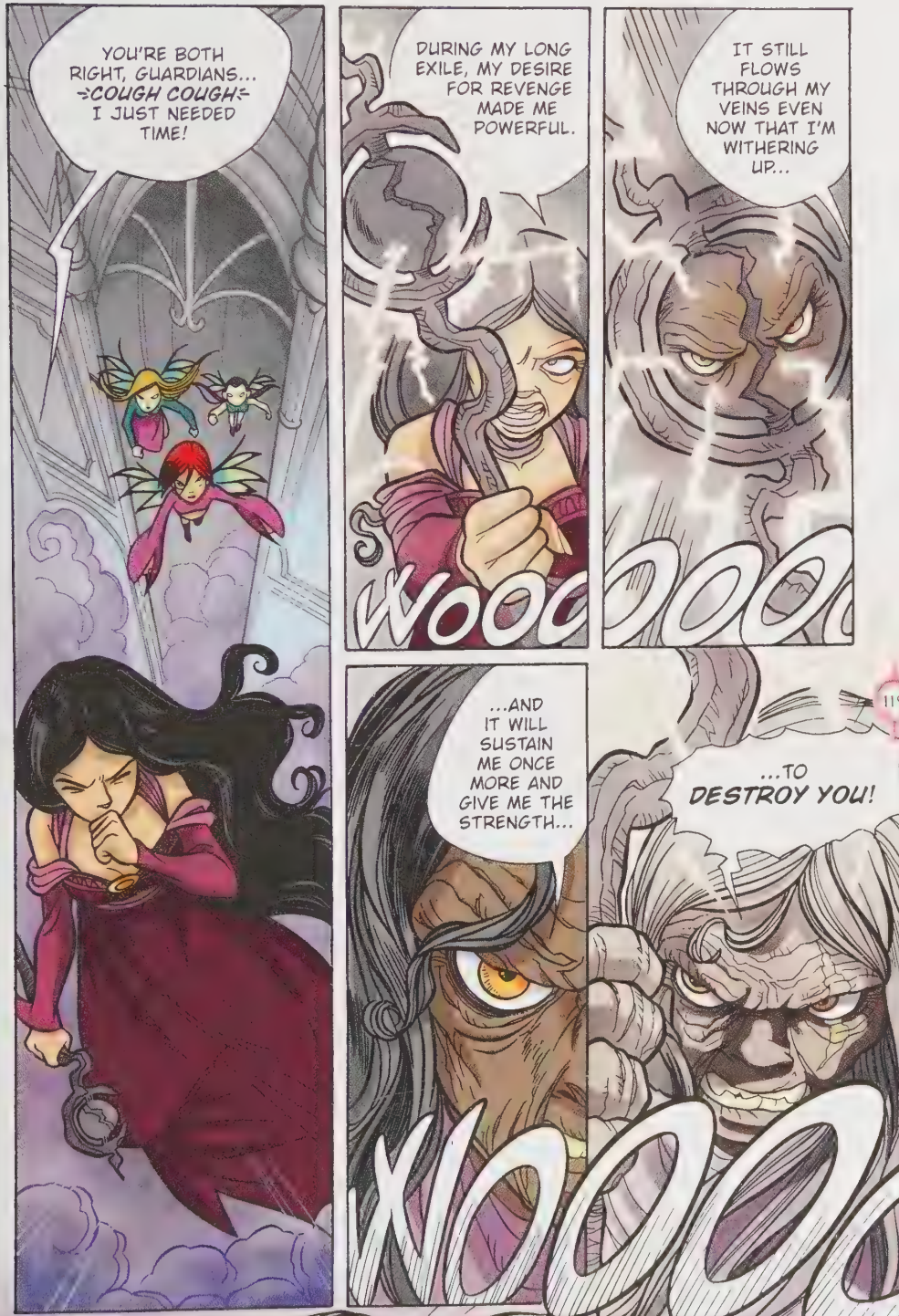

YOU CAN'T! THEY SERVED YOU WELL!
IT'S UNFAIR, I KNOW...BUT ALL CHILDREN OWE A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO THEIR PARENTS.
SO, TIME FOR TRIDART TO MELT INTO TEARS...
...AND FOR EMBERS TO TURN BACK TO ASHES!
SHAAAATZ!


YOU'RE CRUEL! ARE WE GOING TO END UP THE SAME WAY?
NO, SHAGON. TO CREATE THE TWO OF YOU, I MANIPULATED LIVING MATTER.


THAT'S WHY I WANT SOMETHING MORE FROM YOU AND KHOR.
I DEMAND YOUR LIVES!
NNNNGH!
SHRAAATZZZ
AUGRRRR!

SH-SHOULD WE DO SOMETHING?
WHY? NERISSA'S DOING EVERYTHING HERSELF!
I...HATE... YOU!
OBVIOUSLY, SHAGON. YOU WERE THE KNIGHT OF HATE, BUT ALSO A LOOSE CANNON!
WELL, NOW YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT. YOU'LL GIVE ME THE STRENGTH I NEED TO...
NOOOOOOOOOO!
AAAARGH!

BADLY INJURED BY THE BLOW, NERISSA CRAWLS AWAY FROM SHAGON...
THE KNIGHT OF HATE AND KHOR BOTH PASS OUT, RETURNING TO THEIR ORIGINAL FORMS...
...A MAN AND A DOG, TWO INNOCENTS AT RISK OF DISAPPEARING FOREVER INTO THE DARKNESS.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM. YOU DEAL WITH NERISSA!
CALEB'S RIGHT. THAT OLD BAT'S GETTING AWAY!
SHAAAW
SHE WON'T GET FAR. SHE'S TOO WEAK!
THE WAY SHE'S SHOOTING ACROSS KANDRAKAR'S SKY, I'M NOT SO SURE!

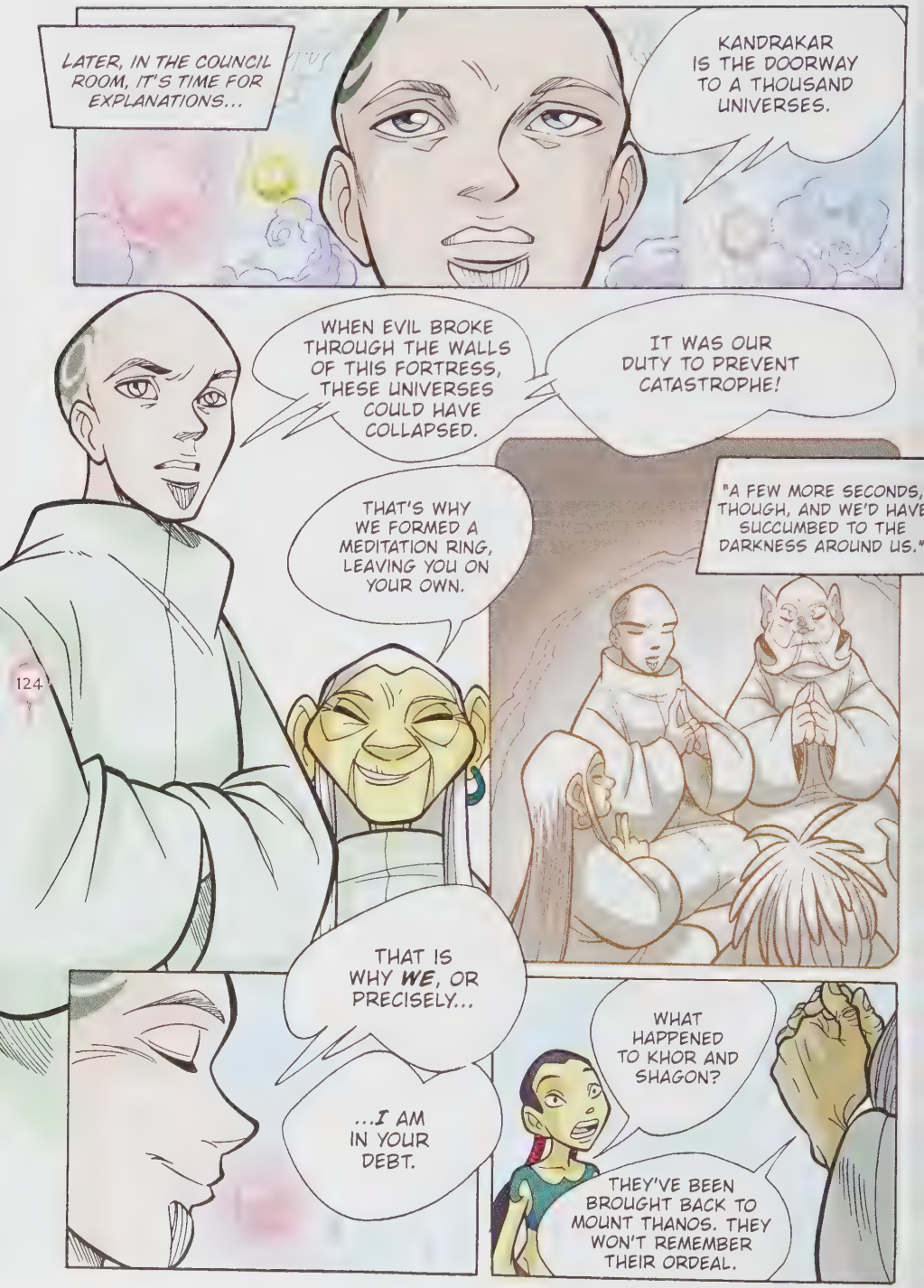

YOU'RE BOTH RIGHT, GUARDIANS... =COUGH COUGH= I JUST NEEDED TIME!
DURING MY LONG EXILE, MY DESIRE FOR REVENGE MADE ME POWERFUL.
IT STILL FLOWS THROUGH MY VEINS EVEN NOW THAT I'M WITHERING UP...
WOOO
OOO
...AND IT WILL SUSTAIN ME ONCE MORE AND GIVE ME THE STRENGTH...
...TO DESTROY YOU!
WOOOO

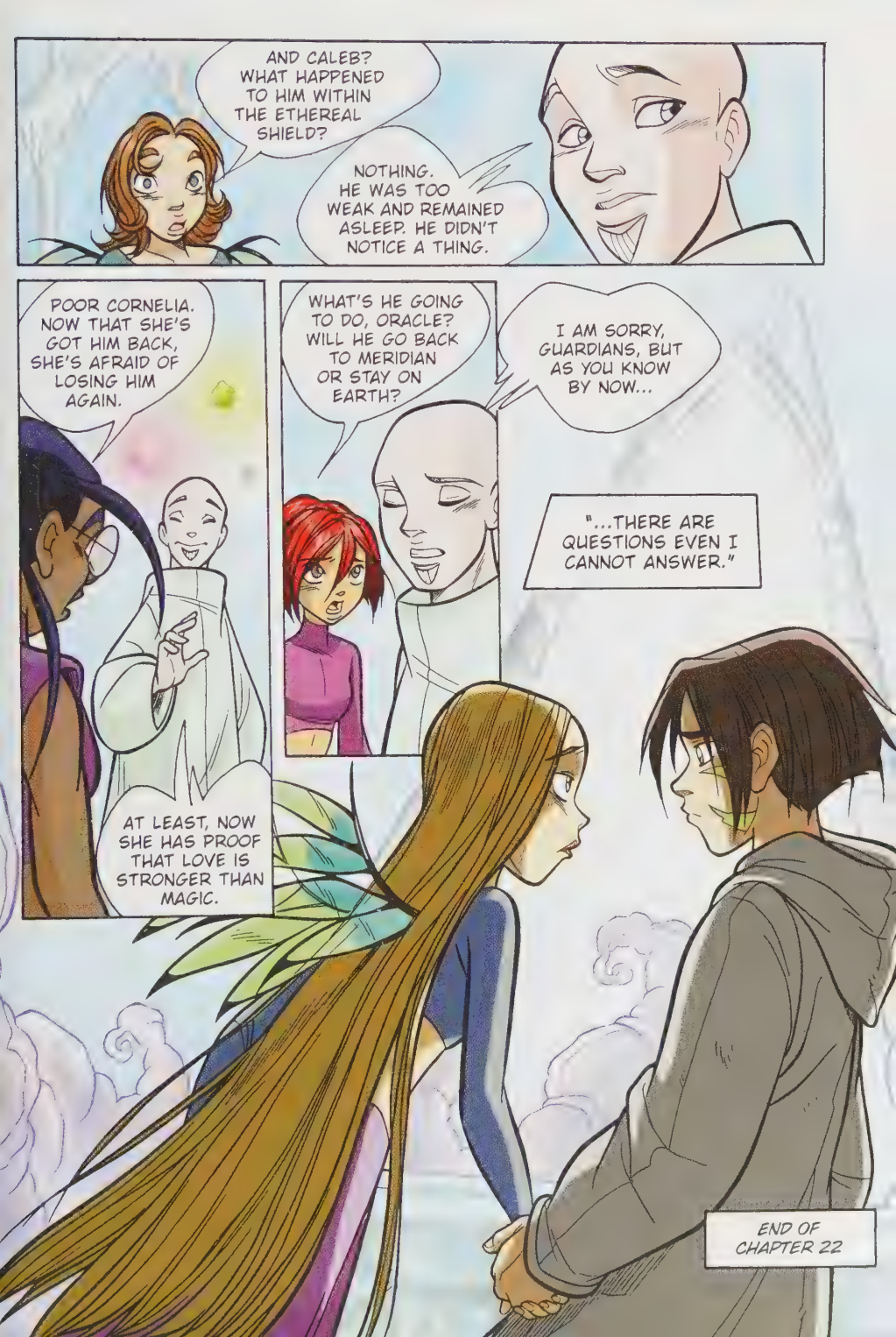
EWWW, TALK ABOUT AN OLD SCAB!
SHE'S MUSTERING ALL THE ENERGY SHE'S GOT LEFT!
WE CAN'T LET HER STRIKE FIRST. READY?
POWER OF THE EARTH!
WATER!
SHAAATZZ
AIR!
FIRE!

THE POWER OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR!
AAAAARRRGH!

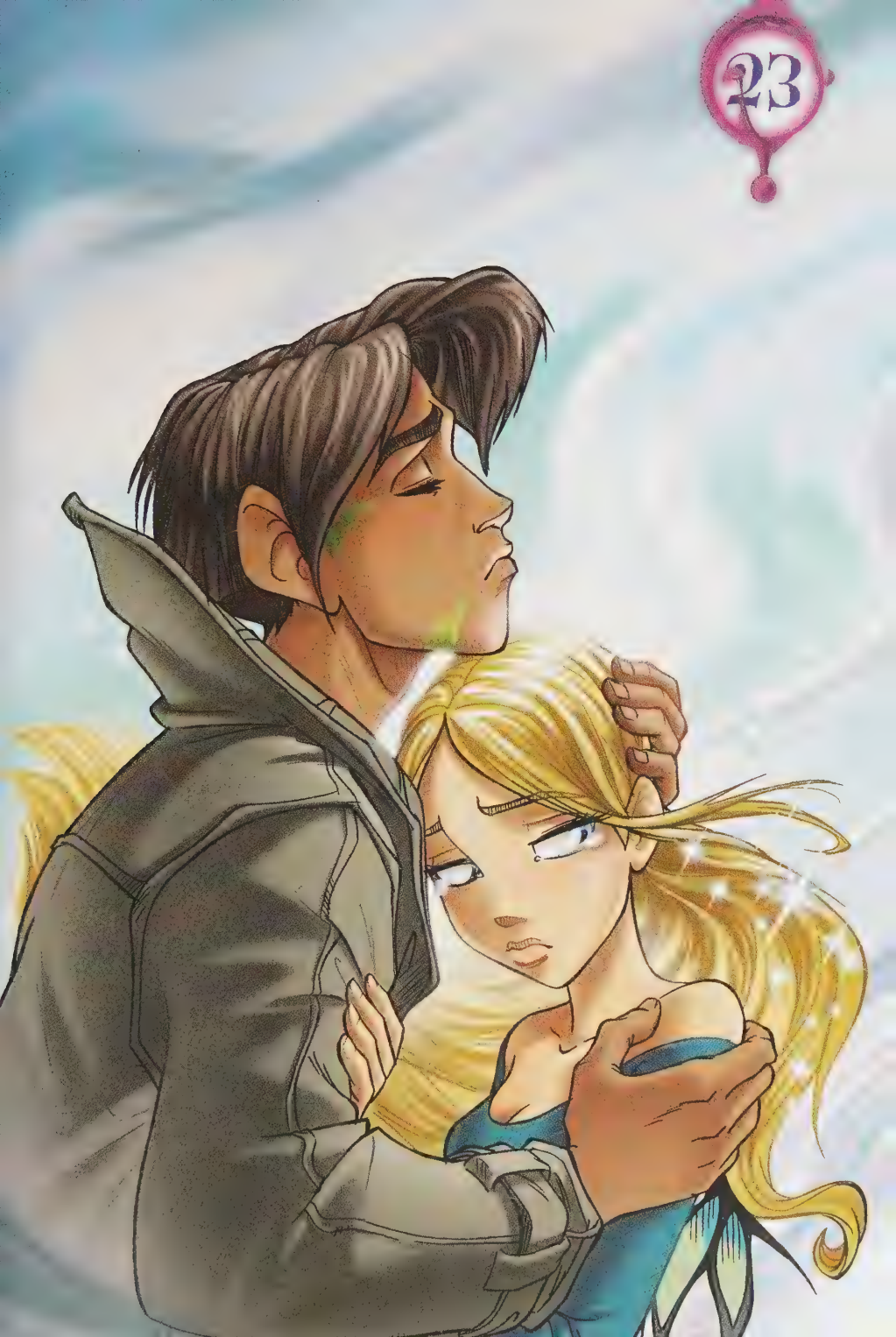
NERISSA VANISHES WITH A LAST, MUFFLED SCREAM.
THE EVIL FORMER GUARDIAN TURNS TO DUST.
AND WHAT'S LEFT OF HER DISPERSES AMONG THE ETERNAL CLOUDS.
THE MAGICAL CLOUDS TURN DARK, GATHERING AROUND THE FORTRESS...
...AND UNLEASH A SUDDEN, VIOLENT STORM.
KRA-KRA
KRAAAK

WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I DUNNO! IT'S ALMOST AS IF...
...THE RAIN'S WASHING AWAY NERISSA'S EVIL.
THE DARKNESS GIVES WAY TO LIGHT...
...AND THE FORTRESS OF KANDRAKAR SHINES AGAIN.
GUYS, LOOK!
IT'S GRANDMA!
PAT
PAT
HEE-HEE! THIS PLACE NEEDED REFRESHING!


LATER, IN THE COUNCIL ROOM, IT'S TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS...
KANDRAKAR IS THE DOORWAY TO A THOUSAND UNIVERSES.
WHEN EVIL BROKE THROUGH THE WALLS OF THIS FORTRESS, THESE UNIVERSES COULD HAVE COLLAPSED.
IT WAS OUR DUTY TO PREVENT CATASTROPHE!
THAT'S WHY WE FORMED A MEDITATION RING, LEAVING YOU ON YOUR OWN.
"A FEW MORE SECONDS, THOUGH, AND WE'D HAVE SUCCUMBED TO THE DARKNESS AROUND US."
THAT IS WHY *WE*, OR PRECISELY...
...*I* AM IN YOUR DEBT.
WHAT HAPPENED TO KHOR AND SHAGON?
THEY'VE BEEN BROUGHT BACK TO MOUNT THANOS. THEY WON'T REMEMBER THEIR ORDEAL.

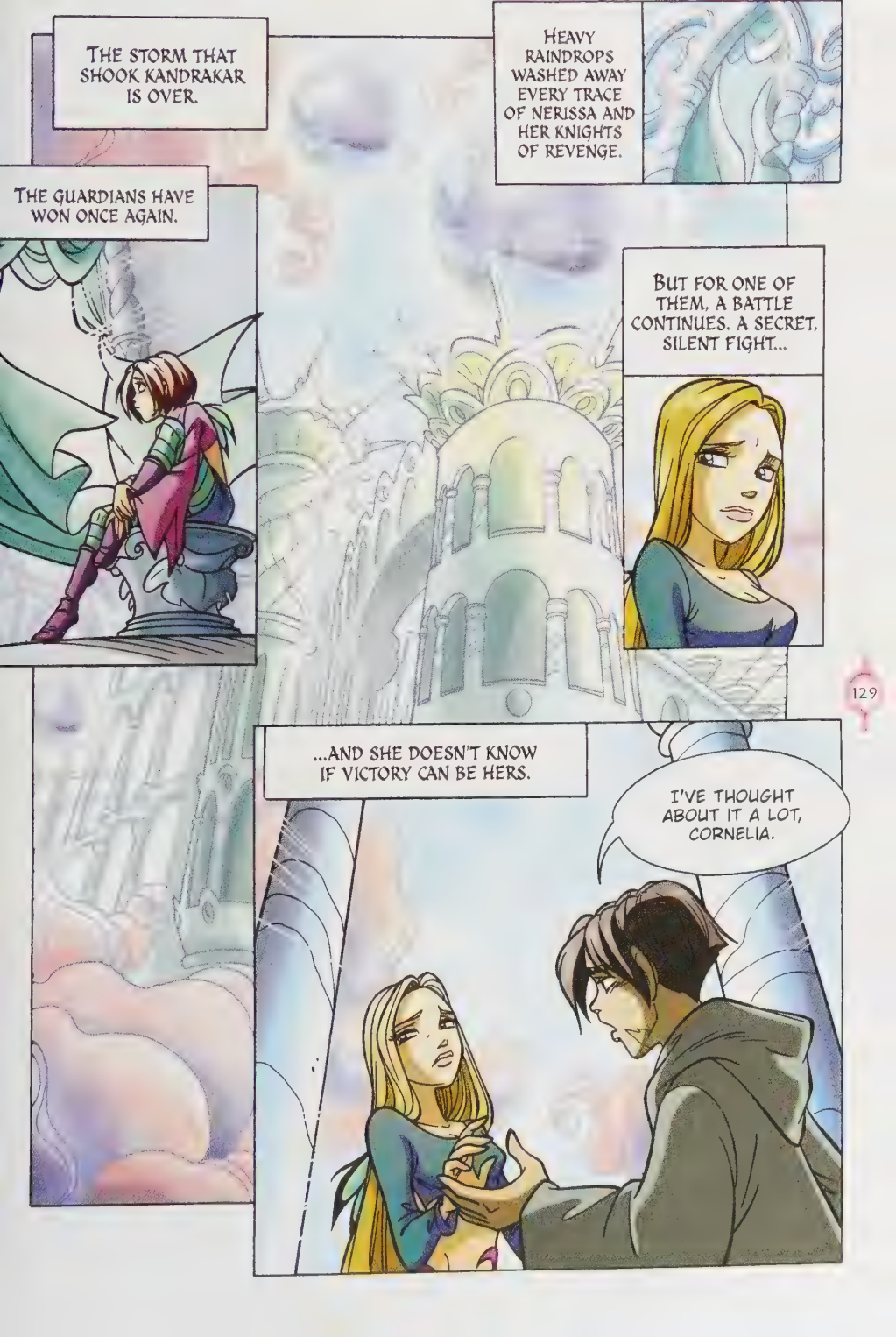

AND CALEB? WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM WITHIN THE ETHEREAL SHIELD?
NOTHING. HE WAS TOO WEAK AND REMAINED ASLEEP. HE DIDN'T NOTICE A THING.
POOR CORNELIA. NOW THAT SHE'S GOT HIM BACK, SHE'S AFRAID OF LOSING HIM AGAIN.
AT LEAST, NOW SHE HAS PROOF THAT LOVE IS STRONGER THAN MAGIC.
WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO, ORACLE? WILL HE GO BACK TO MERIDIAN OR STAY ON EARTH?
I AM SORRY, GUARDIANS, BUT AS YOU KNOW BY NOW...
"...THERE ARE QUESTIONS EVEN I CANNOT ANSWER."
END OF CHAPTER 22

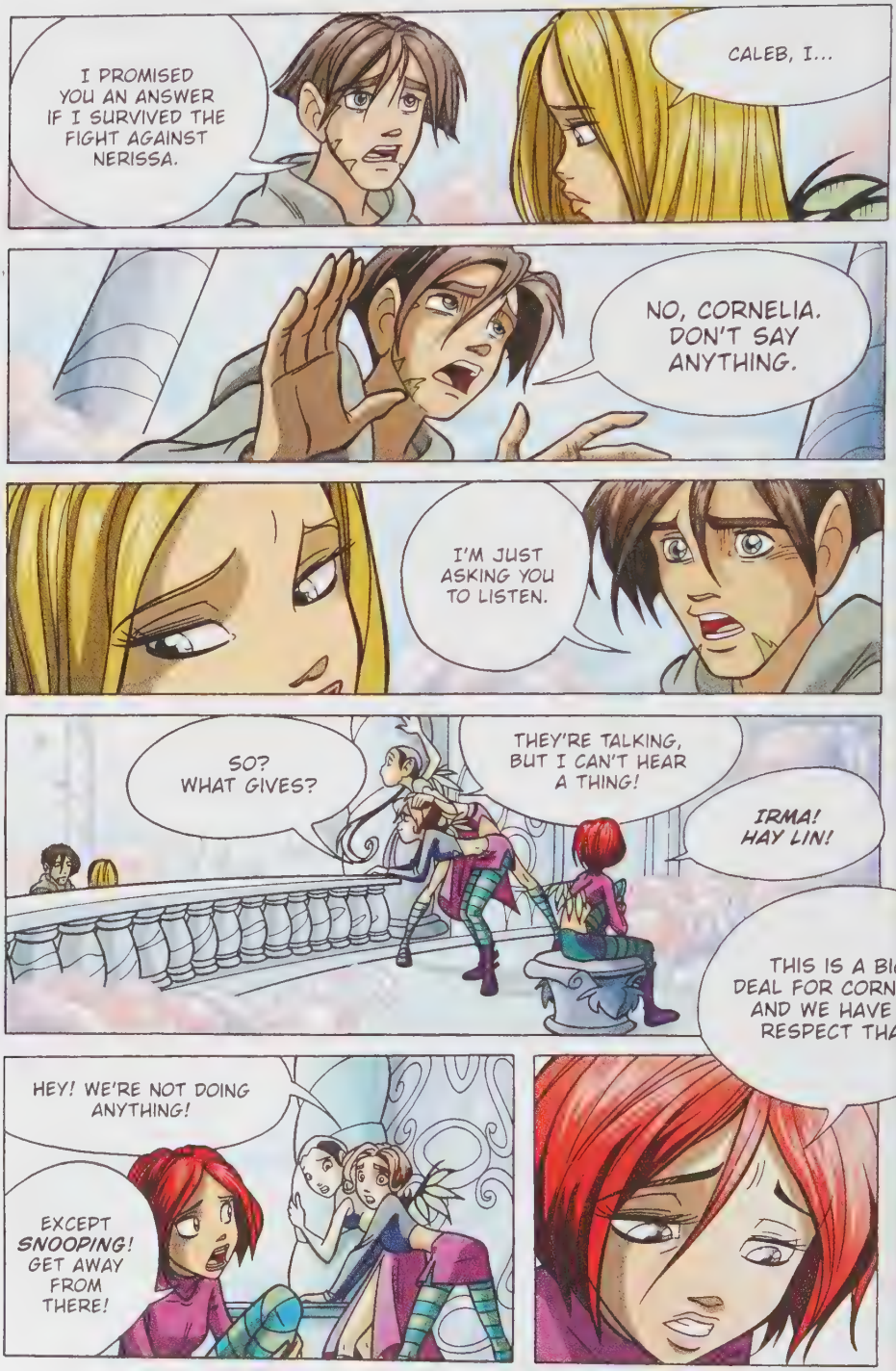
“Keep your thoughts focused on Kandrakar at all times!”

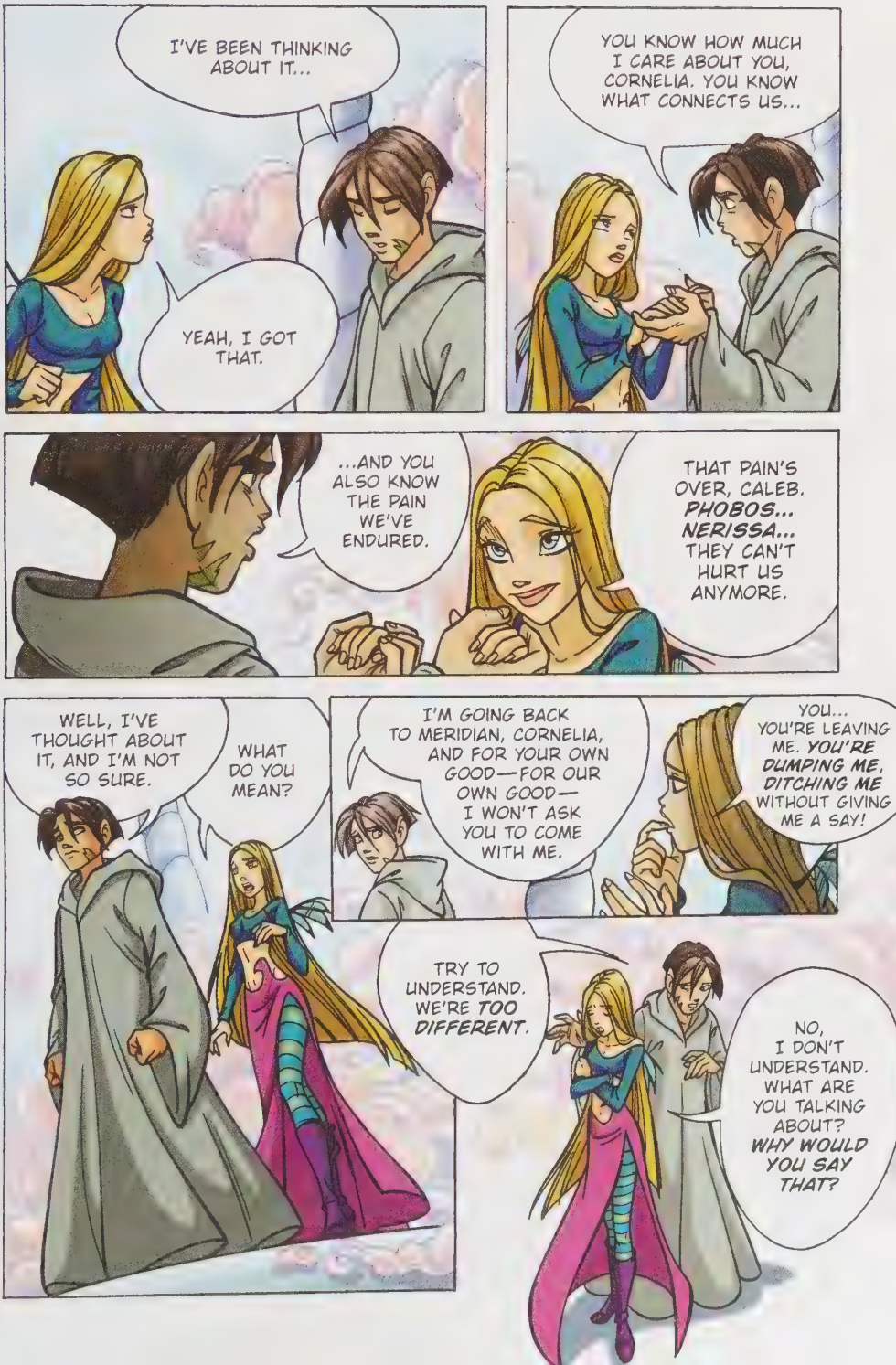

23

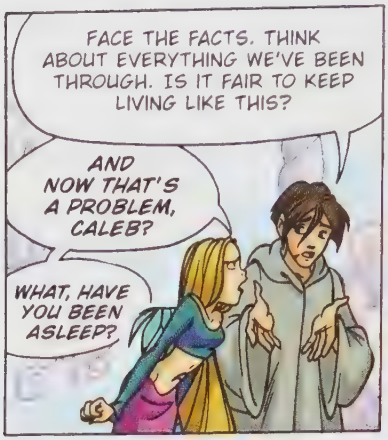
GOOD-BYE!

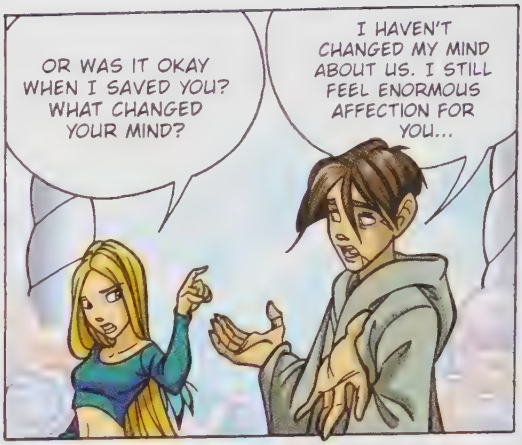
"Every goodbye requires preparation, but most of the time, life catches us unprepared..."

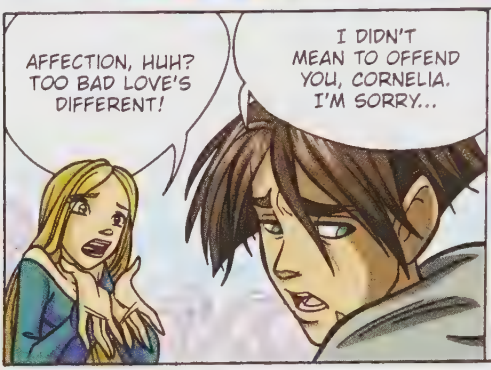

THE STORM THAT SHOOK KANDRAKAR IS OVER.
HEAVY RAINDROPS WASHED AWAY EVERY TRACE OF NERISSA AND HER KNIGHTS OF REVENGE.
THE GUARDIANS HAVE WON ONCE AGAIN.
BUT FOR ONE OF THEM, A BATTLE CONTINUES. A SECRET, SILENT FIGHT...
...AND SHE DOESN'T KNOW IF VICTORY CAN BE HERS.
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LOT, CORNELIA.

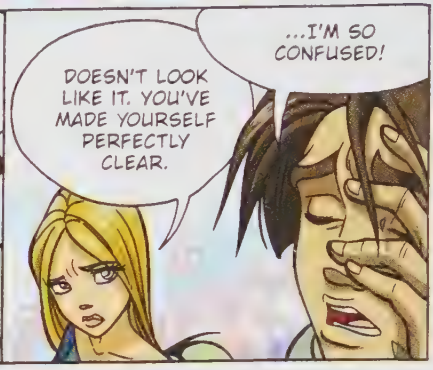

I PROMISED YOU AN ANSWER IF I SURVIVED THE FIGHT AGAINST NERISSA.
CALEB, I...
NO, CORNELIA. DON'T SAY ANYTHING.
I'M JUST ASKING YOU TO LISTEN.
SO? WHAT GIVES?
THEY'RE TALKING, BUT I CAN'T HEAR A THING!
IRMA! HAY LIN!
THIS IS A BIG DEAL FOR CORNE AND WE HAVE T RESPECT THAT
HEY! WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING!
EXCEPT SNOOPING! GET AWAY FROM THERE!

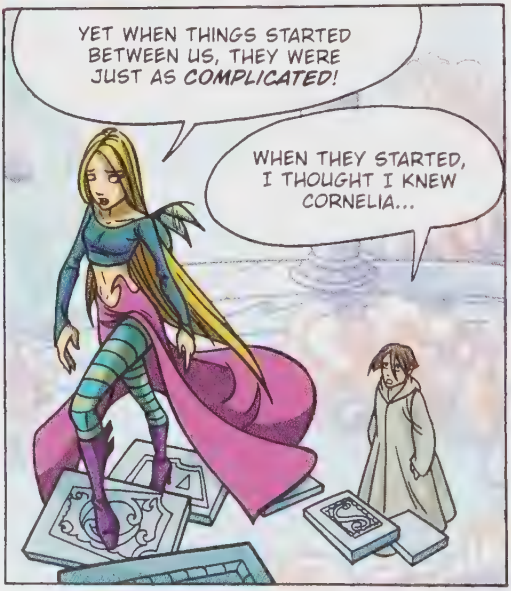

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT...
YEAH, I GOT THAT.
YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I CARE ABOUT YOU, CORNELIA. YOU KNOW WHAT CONNECTS US...
...AND YOU ALSO KNOW THE PAIN WE'VE ENDURED.
THAT PAIN'S OVER, CALEB. PHOBOS... NERISSA... THEY CAN'T HURT US ANYMORE.
WELL, I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT, AND I'M NOT SO SURE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I'M GOING BACK TO MERIDIAN, CORNELIA, AND FOR YOUR OWN GOOD—FOR OUR OWN GOOD— I WON'T ASK YOU TO COME WITH ME.
YOU... YOU'RE LEAVING ME. YOU'RE DUMPING ME, DITCHING ME WITHOUT GIVING ME A SAY!
TRY TO UNDERSTAND. WE'RE TOO DIFFERENT.
NO, I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?

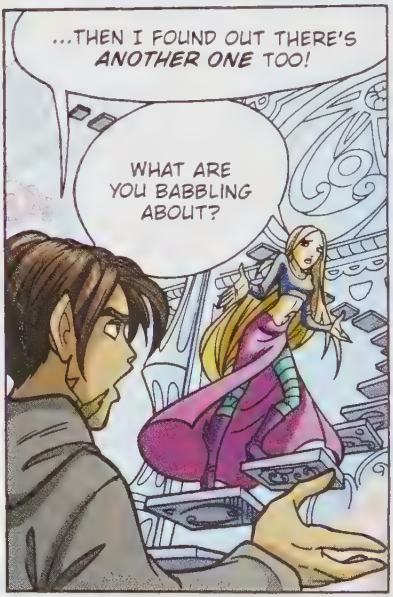

FACE THE FACTS. THINK ABOUT EVERYTHING WE'VE BEEN THROUGH. IS IT FAIR TO KEEP LIVING LIKE THIS?
AND NOW THAT'S A PROBLEM, CALEB?
WHAT, HAVE YOU BEEN ASLEEP?

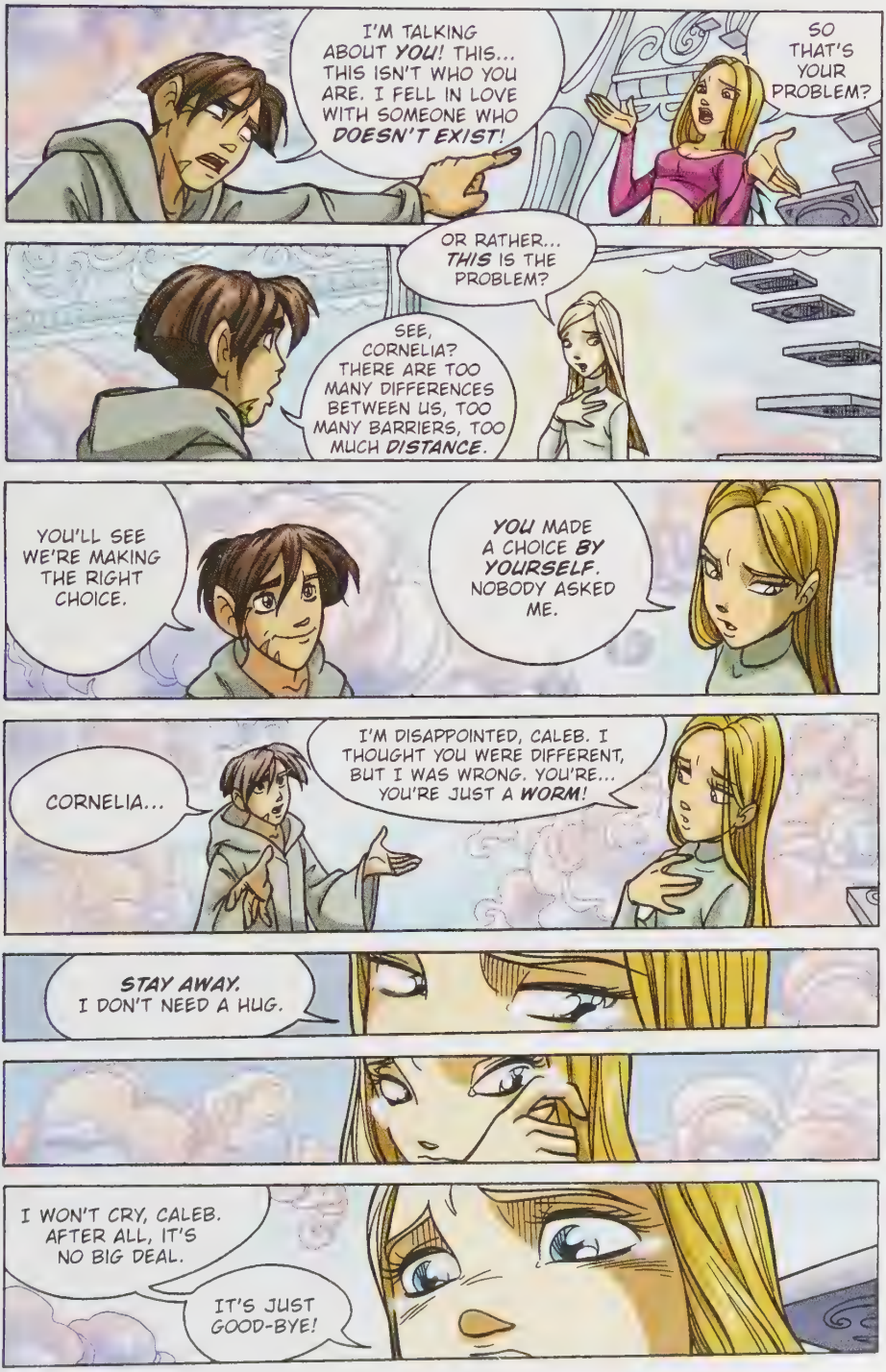

OR WAS IT OKAY WHEN I SAVED YOU? WHAT CHANGED YOUR MIND?
I HAVEN'T CHANGED MY MIND ABOUT US. I STILL FEEL ENORMOUS AFFECTION FOR YOU...

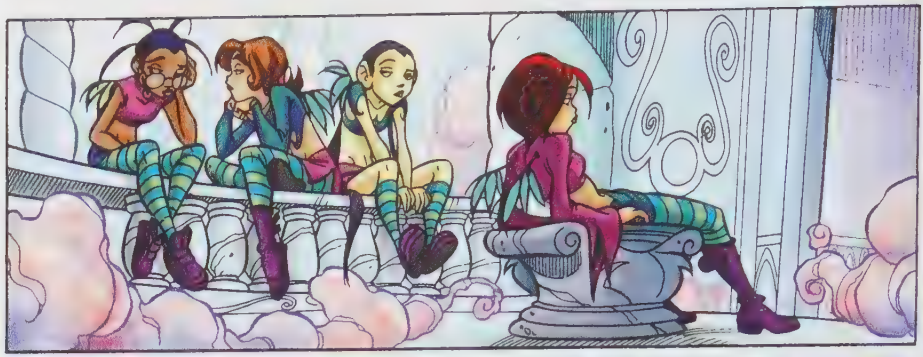

AFFECTION, HUH? TOO BAD LOVE'S DIFFERENT!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO OFFEND YOU, CORNELIA. I'M SORRY...

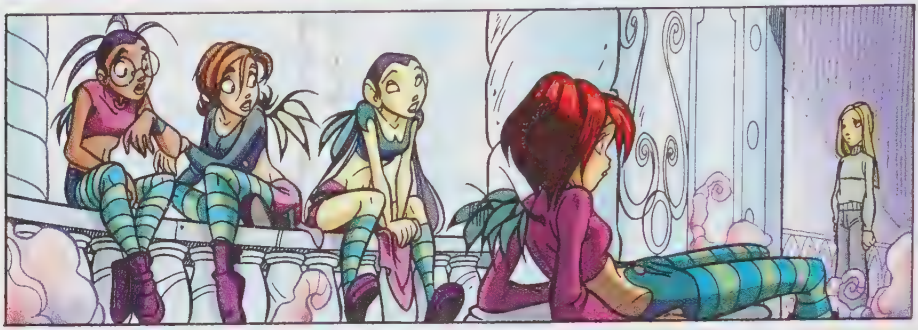

DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT. YOU'VE MADE YOURSELF PERFECTLY CLEAR.
...I'M SO CONFUSED!

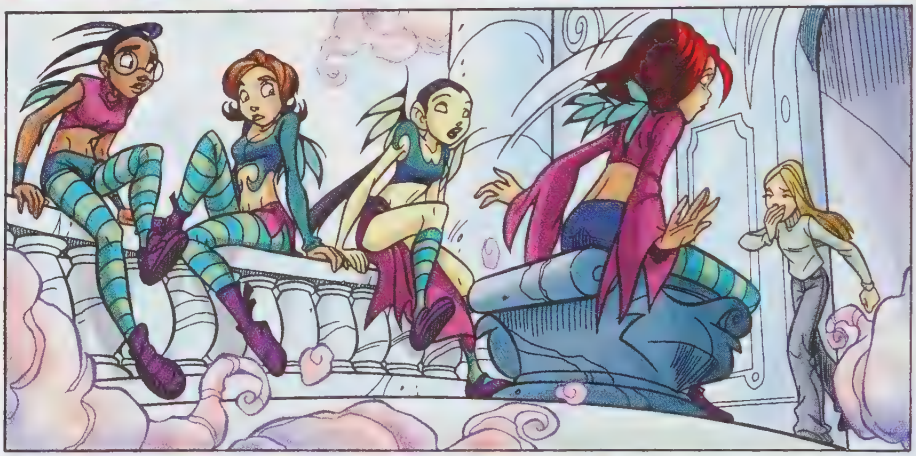

YET WHEN THINGS STARTED BETWEEN US, THEY WERE JUST AS COMPLICATED!
WHEN THEY STARTED, I THOUGHT I KNEW CORNELIA...

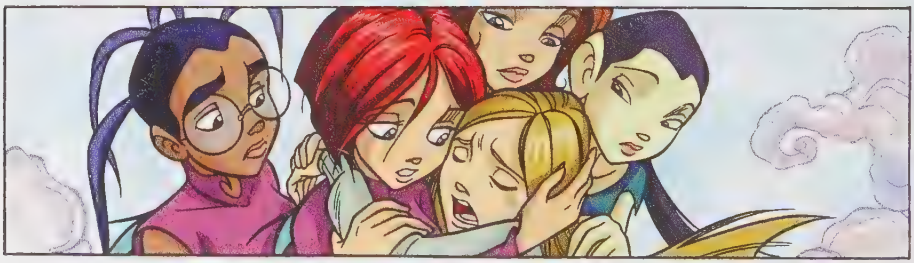

...THEN I FOUND OUT THERE'S ANOTHER ONE TOO!
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?

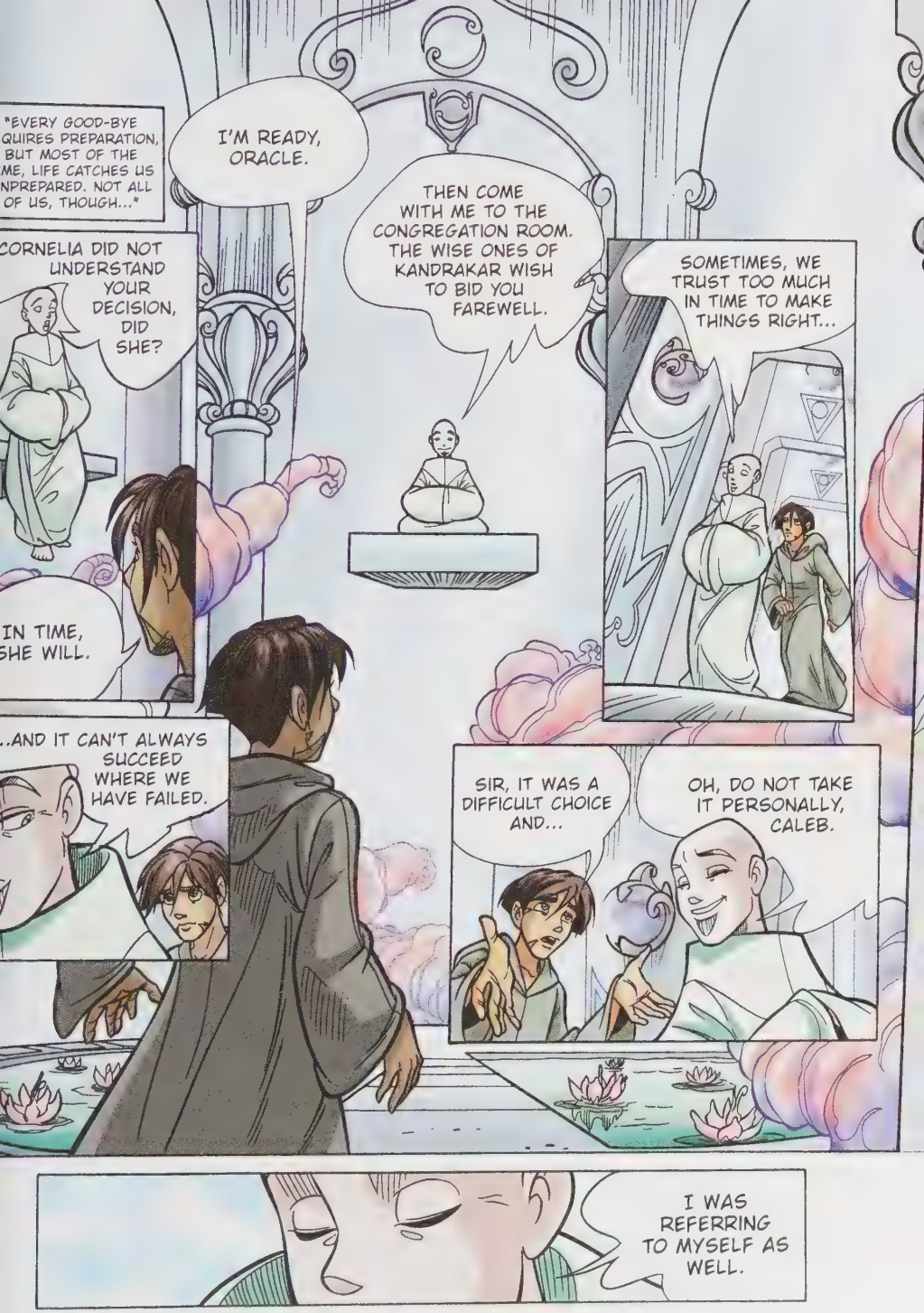

I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU! THIS... THIS ISN'T WHO YOU ARE. I FELL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T EXIST!
SO THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?
OR RATHER... THIS IS THE PROBLEM?
SEE, CORNELIA? THERE ARE TOO MANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US, TOO MANY BARRIERS, TOO MUCH DISTANCE.
YOU'LL SEE WE'RE MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE.
YOU MADE A CHOICE BY YOURSELF. NOBODY ASKED ME.
CORNELIA...
I'M DISAPPOINTED, CALEB. I THOUGHT YOU WERE DIFFERENT, BUT I WAS WRONG. YOU'RE... YOU'RE JUST A WORM!
STAY AWAY. I DON'T NEED A HUG.
I WON'T CRY, CALEB. AFTER ALL, IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
IT'S JUST GOOD-BYE!

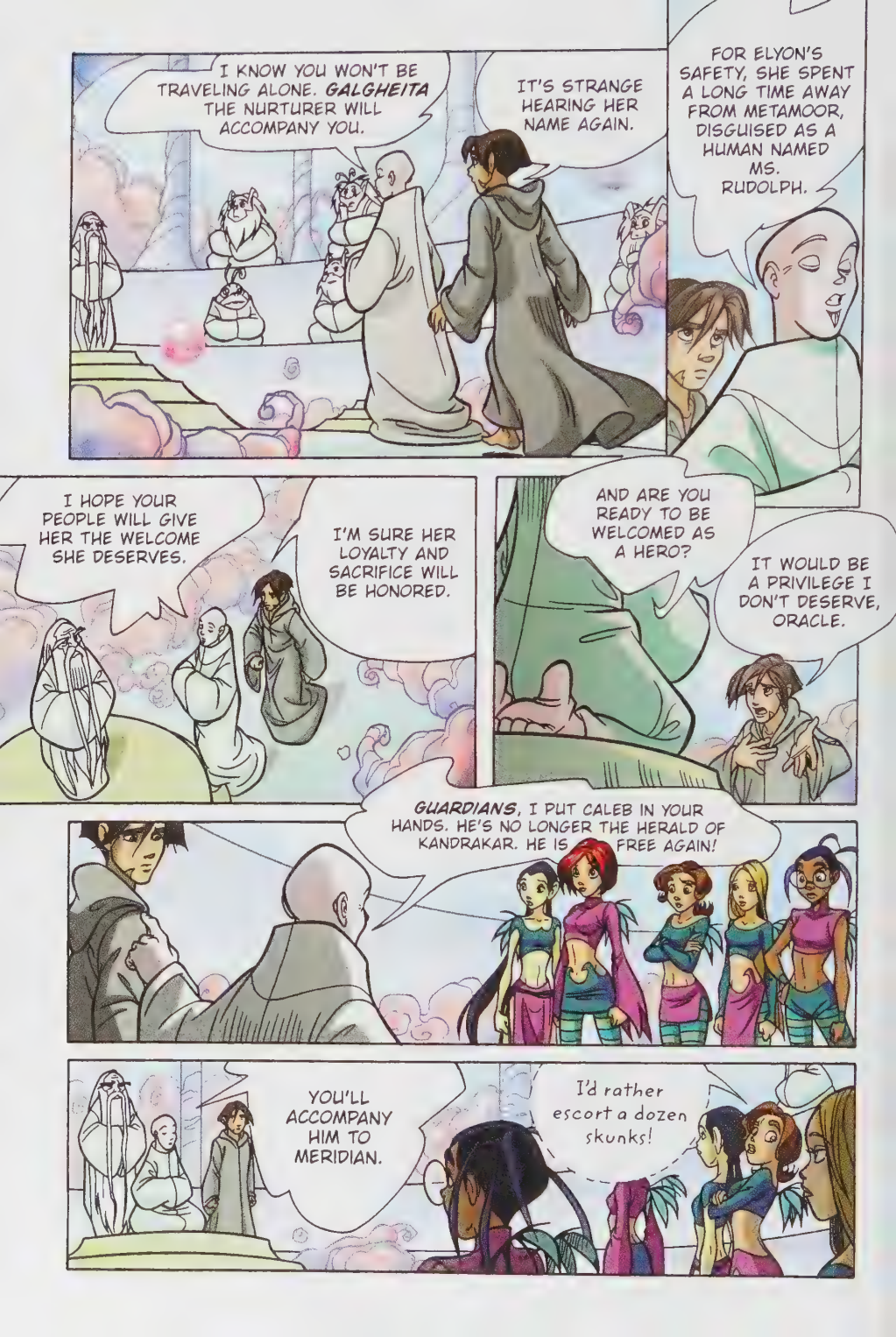


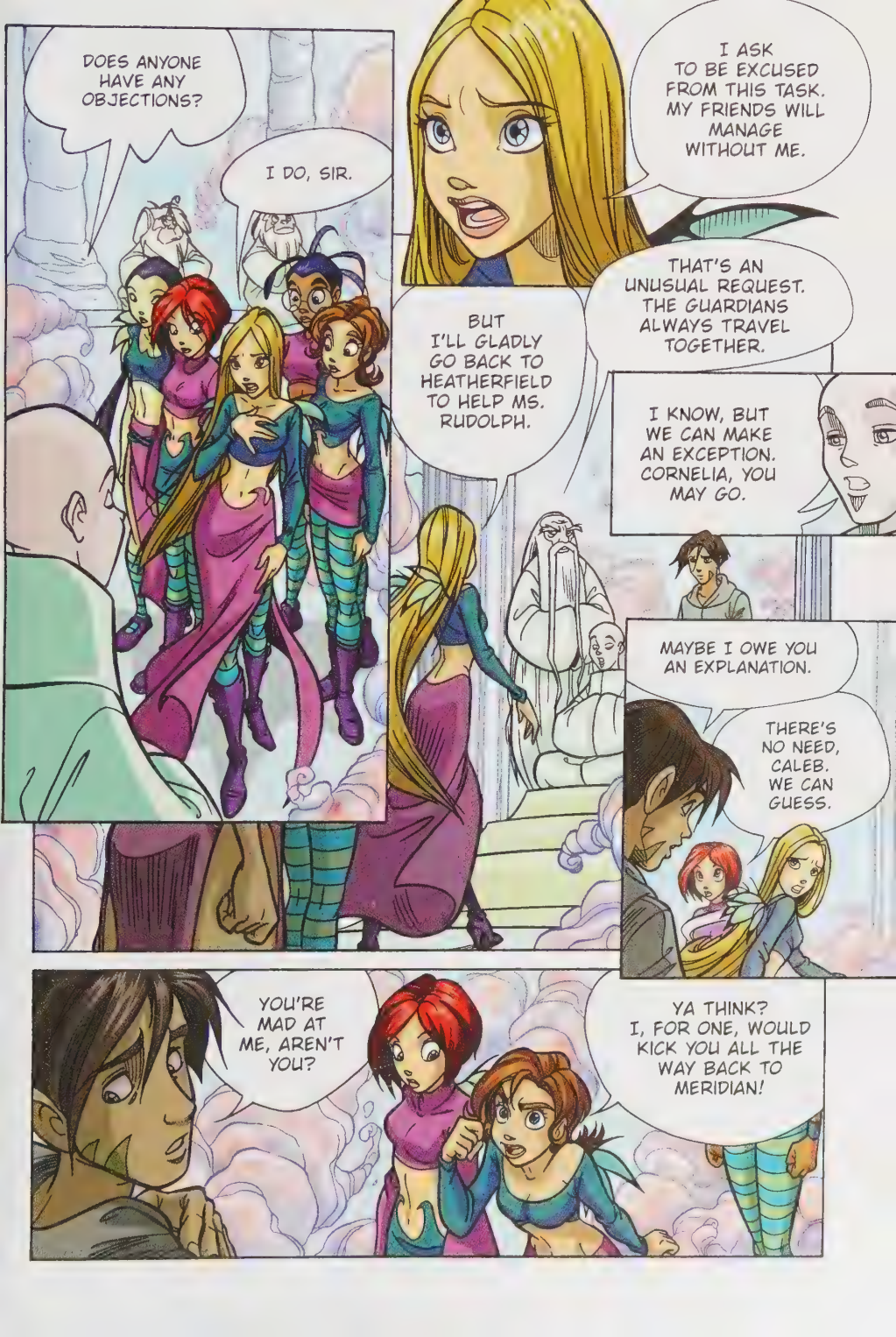


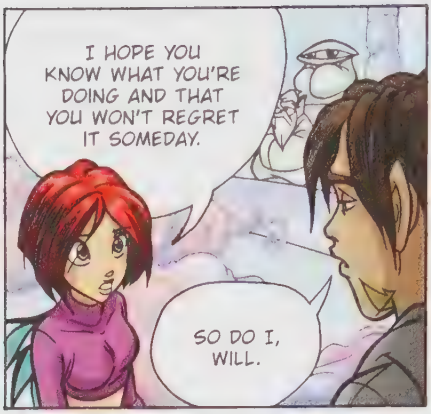


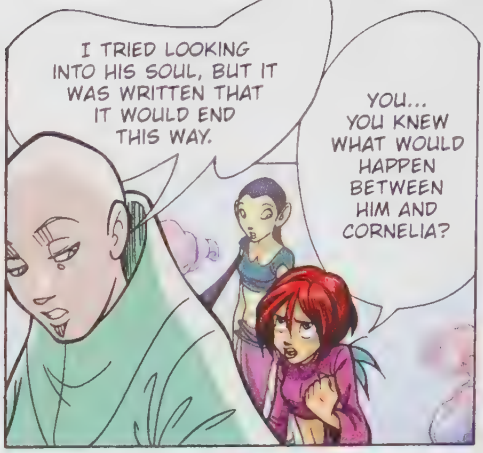



"EVERY GOOD-BYE QUIRES PREPARATION, BUT MOST OF THE ME, LIFE CATCHES US NPREPARED. NOT ALL OF US, THOUGH..."
I'M READY, ORACLE.
THEN COME WITH ME TO THE CONGREGATION ROOM. THE WISE ONES OF KANDRAKAR WISH TO BID YOU FAREWELL.
SOMETIMES, WE TRUST TOO MUCH IN TIME TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT...
CORNELIA DID NOT UNDERSTAND YOUR DECISION, DID SHE?
IN TIME, SHE WILL.
..AND IT CAN'T ALWAYS SUCCEED WHERE WE HAVE FAILED.
SIR, IT WAS A DIFFICULT CHOICE AND...
OH, DO NOT TAKE IT PERSONALLY, CALEB.
I WAS REFERRING TO MYSELF AS WELL.


I KNOW YOU WON'T BE TRAVELING ALONE. GALGHEITA THE NURTURER WILL ACCOMPANY YOU.
IT'S STRANGE HEARING HER NAME AGAIN.
FOR ELYON'S SAFETY, SHE SPENT A LONG TIME AWAY FROM METAMOOR, DISGUISED AS A HUMAN NAMED MS. RUDOLPH.
I HOPE YOUR PEOPLE WILL GIVE HER THE WELCOME SHE DESERVES.
I'M SURE HER LOYALTY AND SACRIFICE WILL BE HONORED.
AND ARE YOU READY TO BE WELCOMED AS A HERO?
IT WOULD BE A PRIVILEGE I DON'T DESERVE, ORACLE.
GUARDIANS, I PUT CALEB IN YOUR HANDS. HE'S NO LONGER THE HERALD OF KANDRAKAR. HE IS FREE AGAIN!
YOU'LL ACCOMPANY HIM TO MERIDIAN.
I'd rather escort a dozen skunks!


DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS?
I DO, SIR.
I ASK TO BE EXCUSED FROM THIS TASK. MY FRIENDS WILL MANAGE WITHOUT ME.
THAT'S AN UNUSUAL REQUEST. THE GUARDIANS ALWAYS TRAVEL TOGETHER.
BUT I'LL GLADLY GO BACK TO HEATHERFIELD TO HELP MS. RUDOLPH.
I KNOW, BUT WE CAN MAKE AN EXCEPTION. CORNELIA, YOU MAY GO.
MAYBE I OWE YOU AN EXPLANATION.
THERE'S NO NEED, CALEB. WE CAN GUESS.
YOU'RE MAD AT ME, AREN'T YOU?
YA THINK? I, FOR ONE, WOULD KICK YOU ALL THE WAY BACK TO MERIDIAN!


I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING AND THAT YOU WON'T REGRET IT SOMEDAY.
SO DO I, WILL.

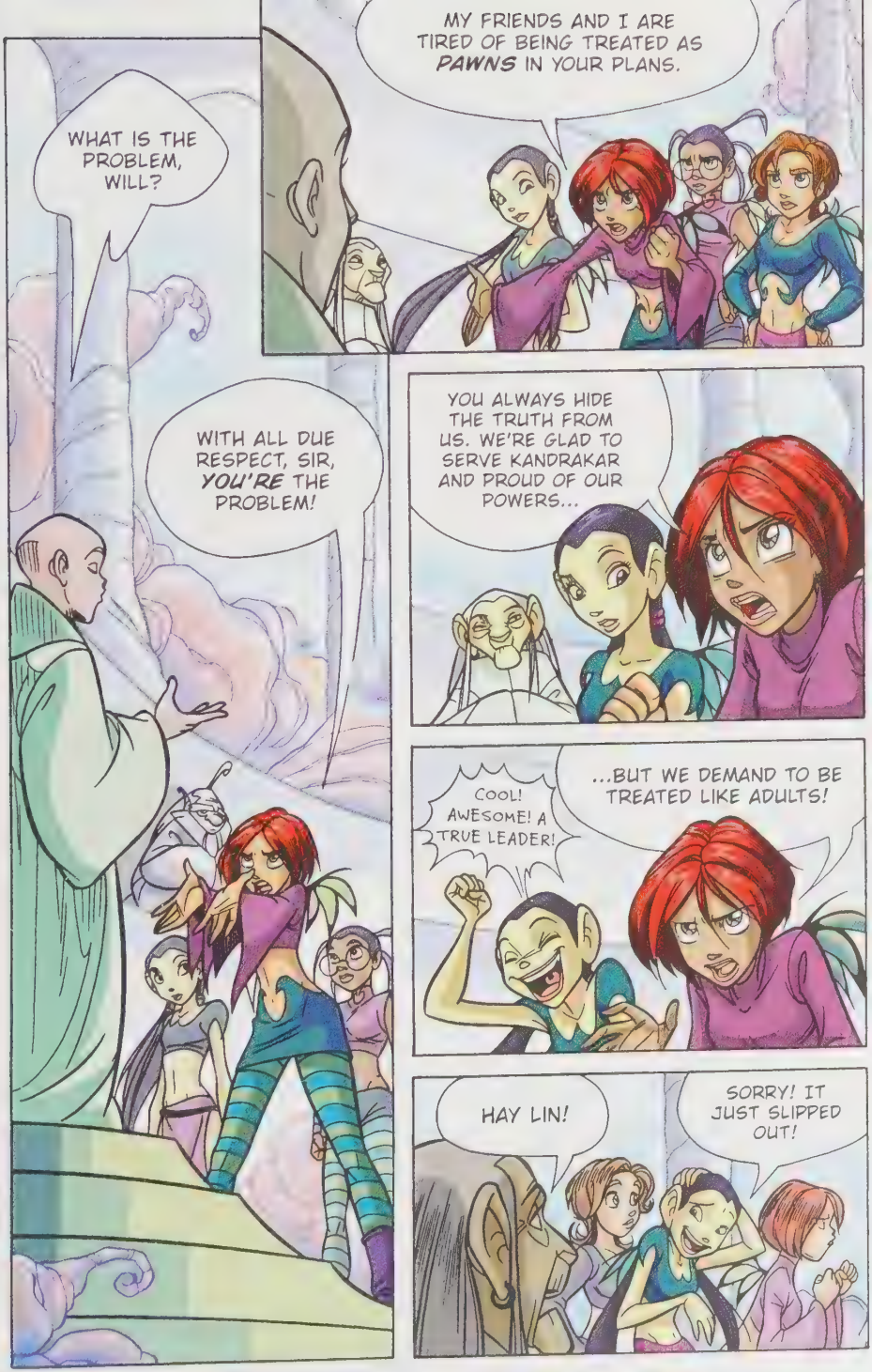

I TRIED LOOKING INTO HIS SOUL, BUT IT WAS WRITTEN THAT IT WOULD END THIS WAY.
YOU... YOU KNEW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN BETWEEN HIM AND CORNELIA?

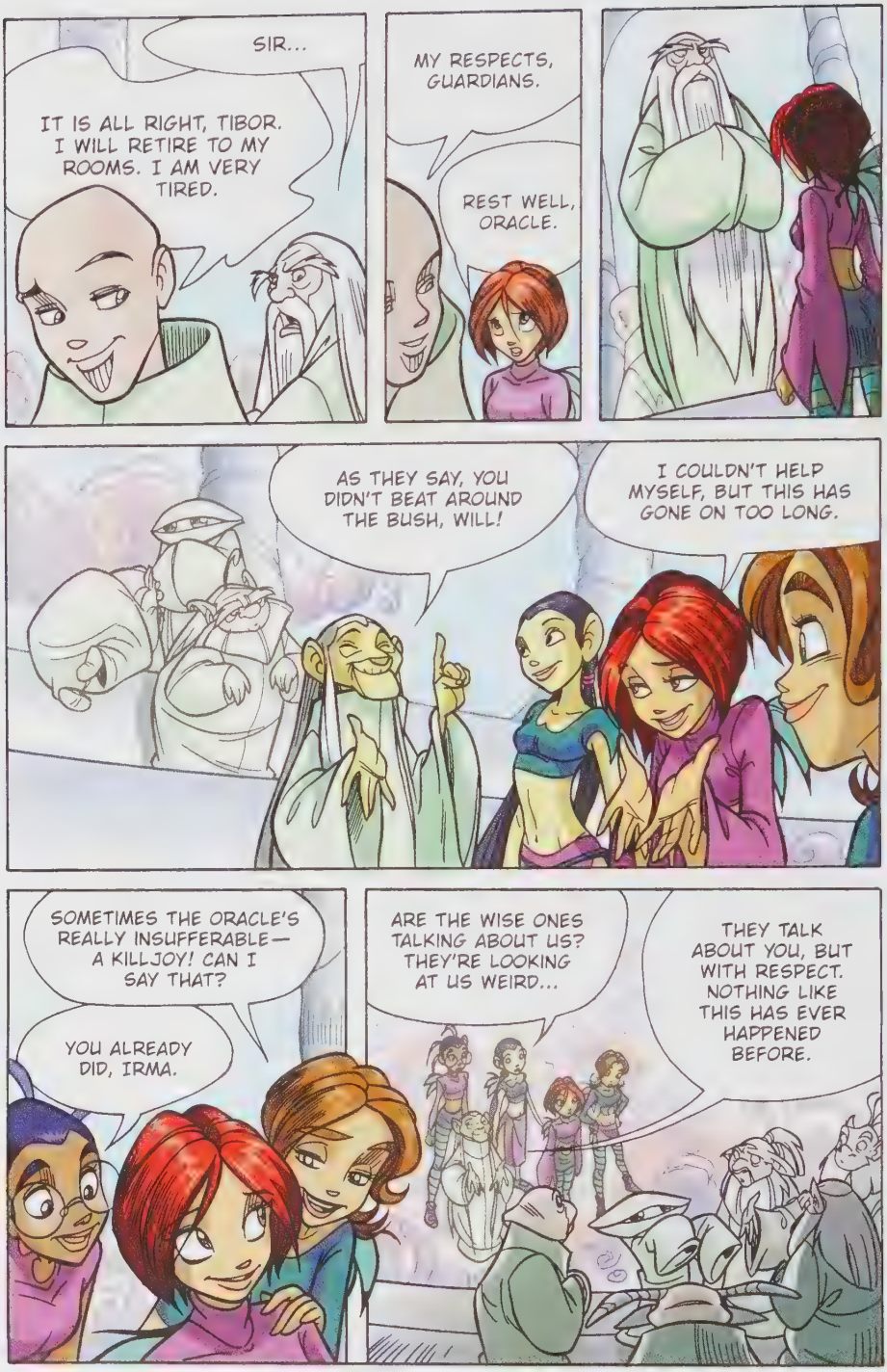
WHO CAN REALLY KNOW ANYTHING? I WATCH, LISTEN, PONDER, AND...
ENOUGH...

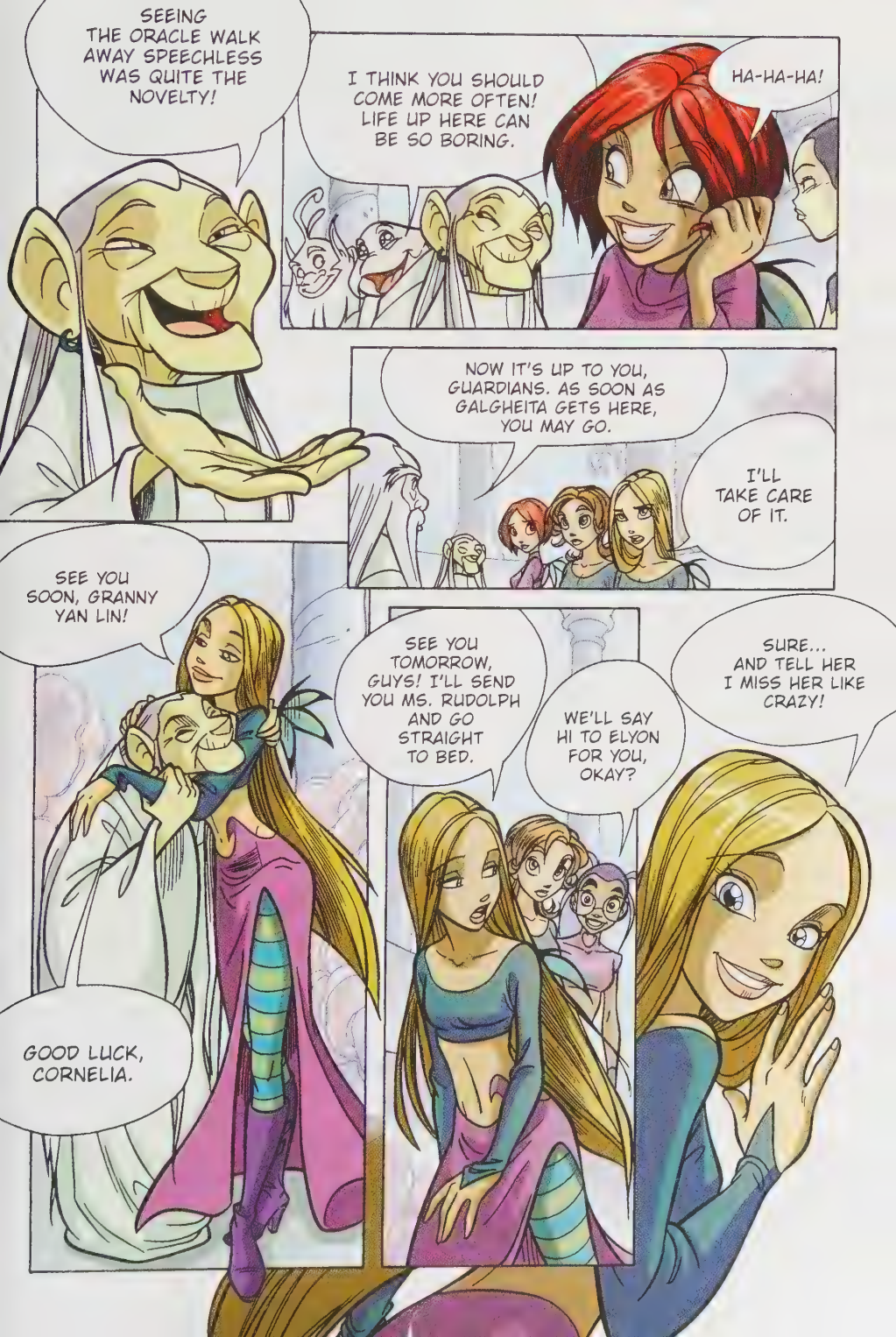
GIVE US A BREAK!
!

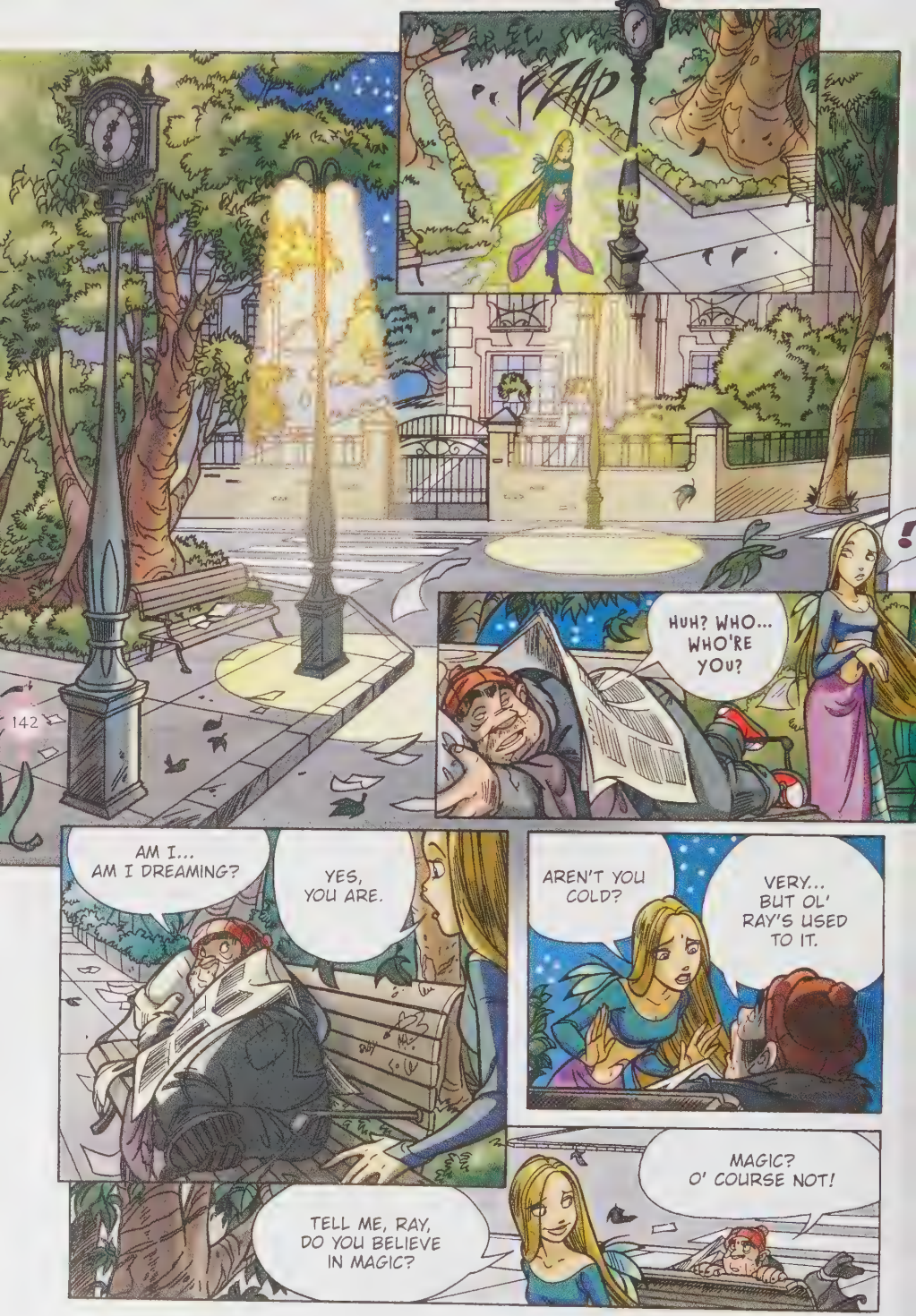
WE'RE SICK OF BEING TREATED THIS WAY. WE'RE SICK OF YOUR ATTITUDE!

GUARDIAN!
NO, TIBOR. LET HER EXPRESS THE RESENTMENT THAT LIES IN HER HEART.

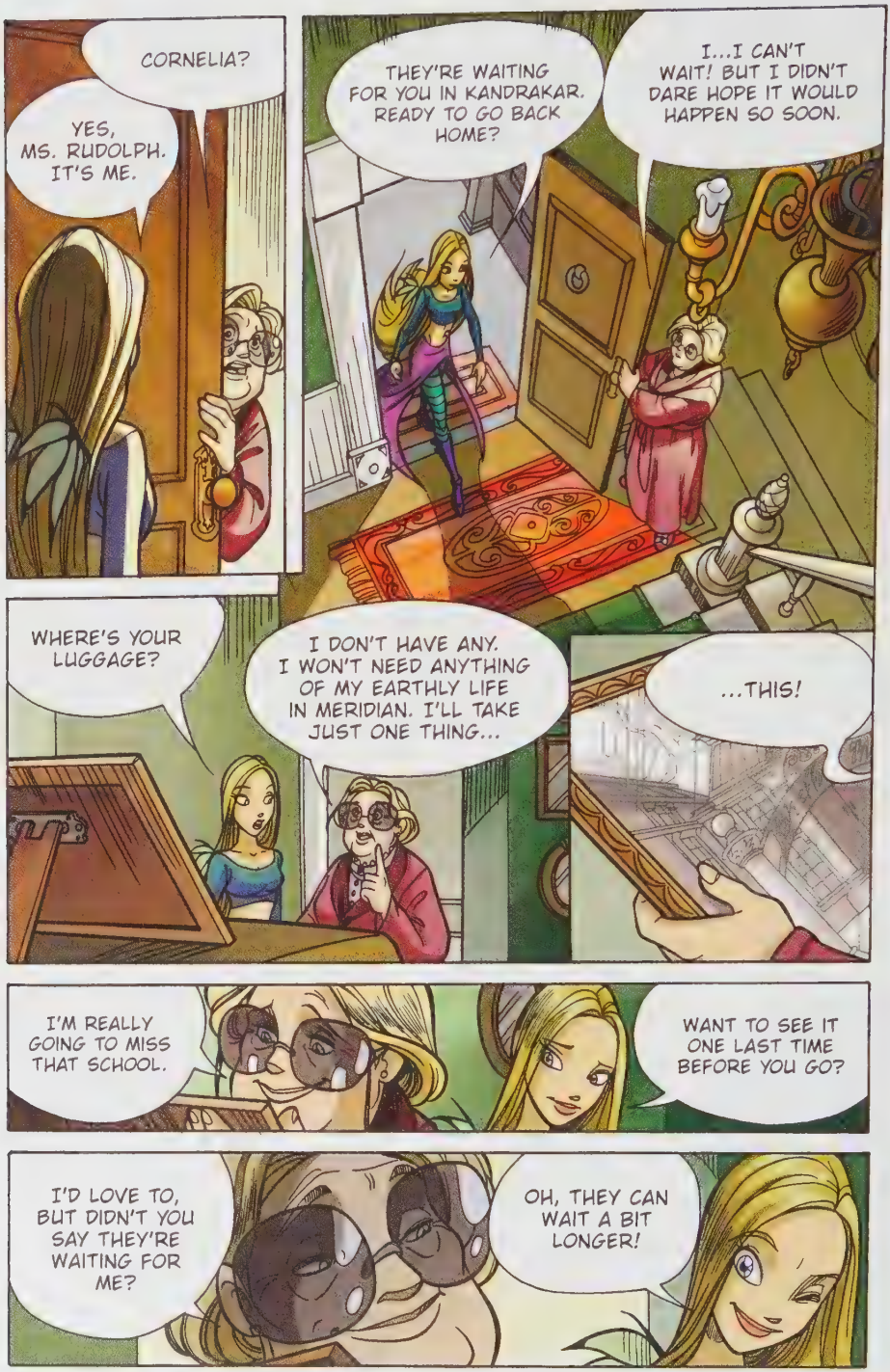

MY FRIENDS AND I ARE TIRED OF BEING TREATED AS *PAWNS* IN YOUR PLANS.
WHAT IS THE PROBLEM, WILL?
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, SIR, *YOU'RE* THE PROBLEM!
YOU ALWAYS HIDE THE TRUTH FROM US. WE'RE GLAD TO SERVE KANDRAKAR AND PROUD OF OUR POWERS...
...BUT WE DEMAND TO BE TREATED LIKE ADULTS!
COOL! AWESOME! A TRUE LEADER!
HAY LIN!
SORRY! IT JUST SLIPPED OUT!


SIR...
IT IS ALL RIGHT, TIBOR. I WILL RETIRE TO MY ROOMS. I AM VERY TIRED.
MY RESPECTS, GUARDIANS.
REST WELL, ORACLE.
AS THEY SAY, YOU DIDN'T BEAT AROUND THE BUSH, WILL!
I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF, BUT THIS HAS GONE ON TOO LONG.
SOMETIMES THE ORACLE'S REALLY INSUFFERABLE— A KILLJOY! CAN I SAY THAT?
YOU ALREADY DID, IRMA.
ARE THE WISE ONES TALKING ABOUT US? THEY'RE LOOKING AT US WEIRD...
THEY TALK ABOUT YOU, BUT WITH RESPECT. NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER HAPPENED BEFORE.

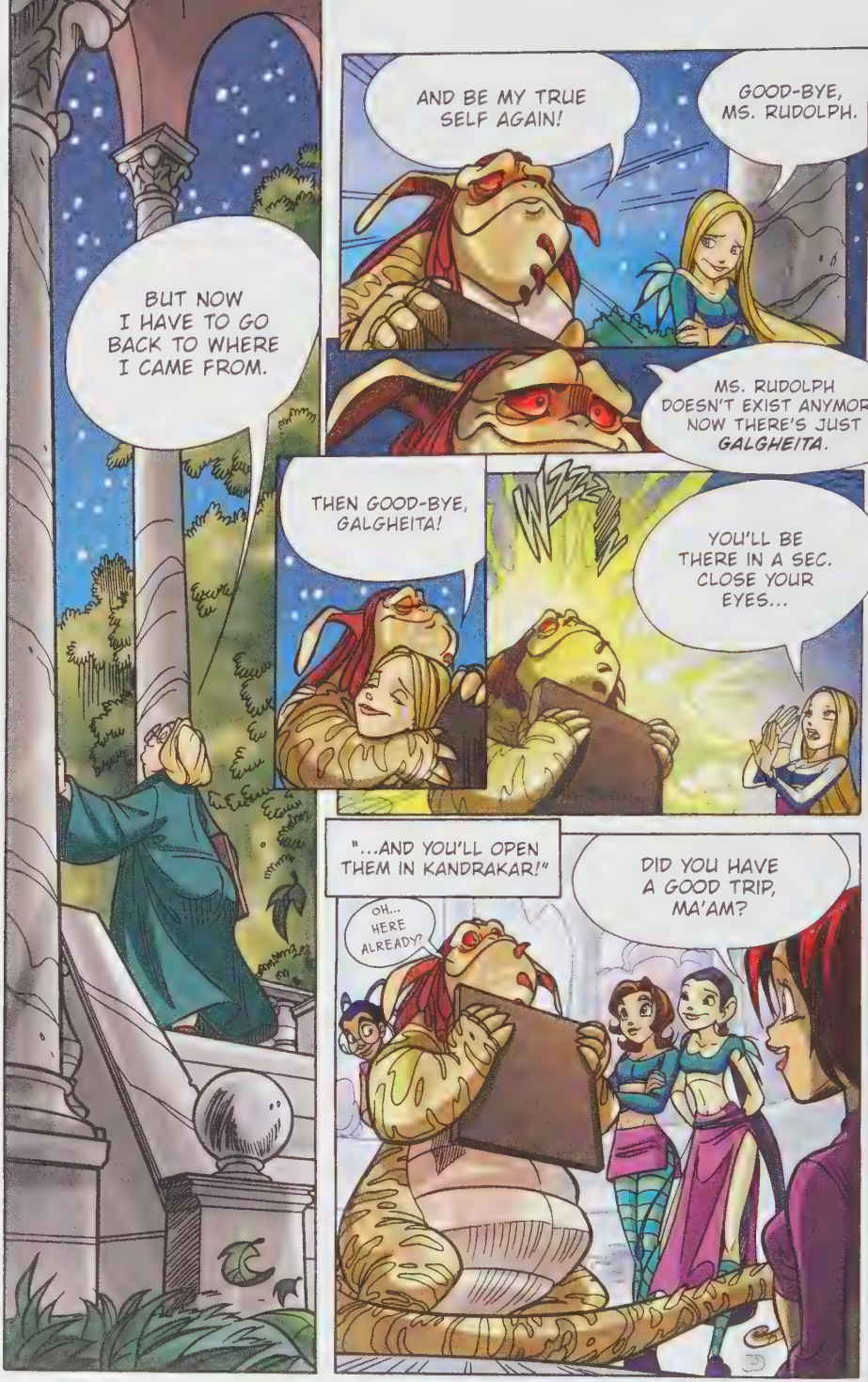

SEEING THE ORACLE WALK AWAY SPEECHLESS WAS QUITE THE NOVELTY!
I THINK YOU SHOULD COME MORE OFTEN! LIFE UP HERE CAN BE SO BORING.
HA-HA-HA!
NOW IT'S UP TO YOU, GUARDIANS. AS SOON AS GALGHEITA GETS HERE, YOU MAY GO.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.
SEE YOU SOON, GRANNY YAN LIN!
SEE YOU TOMORROW, GUYS! I'LL SEND YOU MS. RUDOLPH AND GO STRAIGHT TO BED.
WE'LL SAY HI TO ELYON FOR YOU, OKAY?
SURE... AND TELL HER I MISS HER LIKE CRAZY!
GOOD LUCK, CORNELIA.


FAAP
!
HUH? WHO... WHO'RE YOU?
142
AM I... AM I DREAMING?
YES, YOU ARE.
AREN'T YOU COLD?
VERY... BUT OL' RAY'S USED TO IT.
MAGIC? O' COURSE NOT!
TELL ME, RAY, DO YOU BELIEVE IN MAGIC?

THEN YOU'RE WRONG, RAY.
EEEEEK!
WH-WHO ARE YOU? A FAIRY?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
HERE'S YOUR NEW HOUSE. IT'S ALL YOURS!
THANK YOU... BUT WHY'D YA DO THIS?
BECAUSE TONIGHT I FELT LIKE IT. IT'S AN ACT OF LOVE. SLEEP WELL, MY FRIEND.
"NOW YOU HAVE A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD."
TOC TOC
TOC


CORNELIA?
YES, MS. RUDOLPH. IT'S ME.
THEY'RE WAITING FOR YOU IN KANDRAKAR. READY TO GO BACK HOME?
I...I CAN'T WAIT! BUT I DIDN'T DARE HOPE IT WOULD HAPPEN SO SOON.
WHERE'S YOUR LUGGAGE?
I DON'T HAVE ANY. I WON'T NEED ANYTHING OF MY EARTHLY LIFE IN MERIDIAN. I'LL TAKE JUST ONE THING...
...THIS!
I'M REALLY GOING TO MISS THAT SCHOOL.
WANT TO SEE IT ONE LAST TIME BEFORE YOU GO?
I'D LOVE TO, BUT DIDN'T YOU SAY THEY'RE WAITING FOR ME?
OH, THEY CAN WAIT A BIT LONGER!

NEED TO HAPPEN!"
COME!
SHA-WAAAA
YOU CAN GO IN. I'LL WAIT HERE... TAKE YOUR TIME.
I JUST WANT TO SAY GOOD-BYE ONE LAST TIME.
THESE WERE HAPPY YEARS.
I WON'T BE LONG.

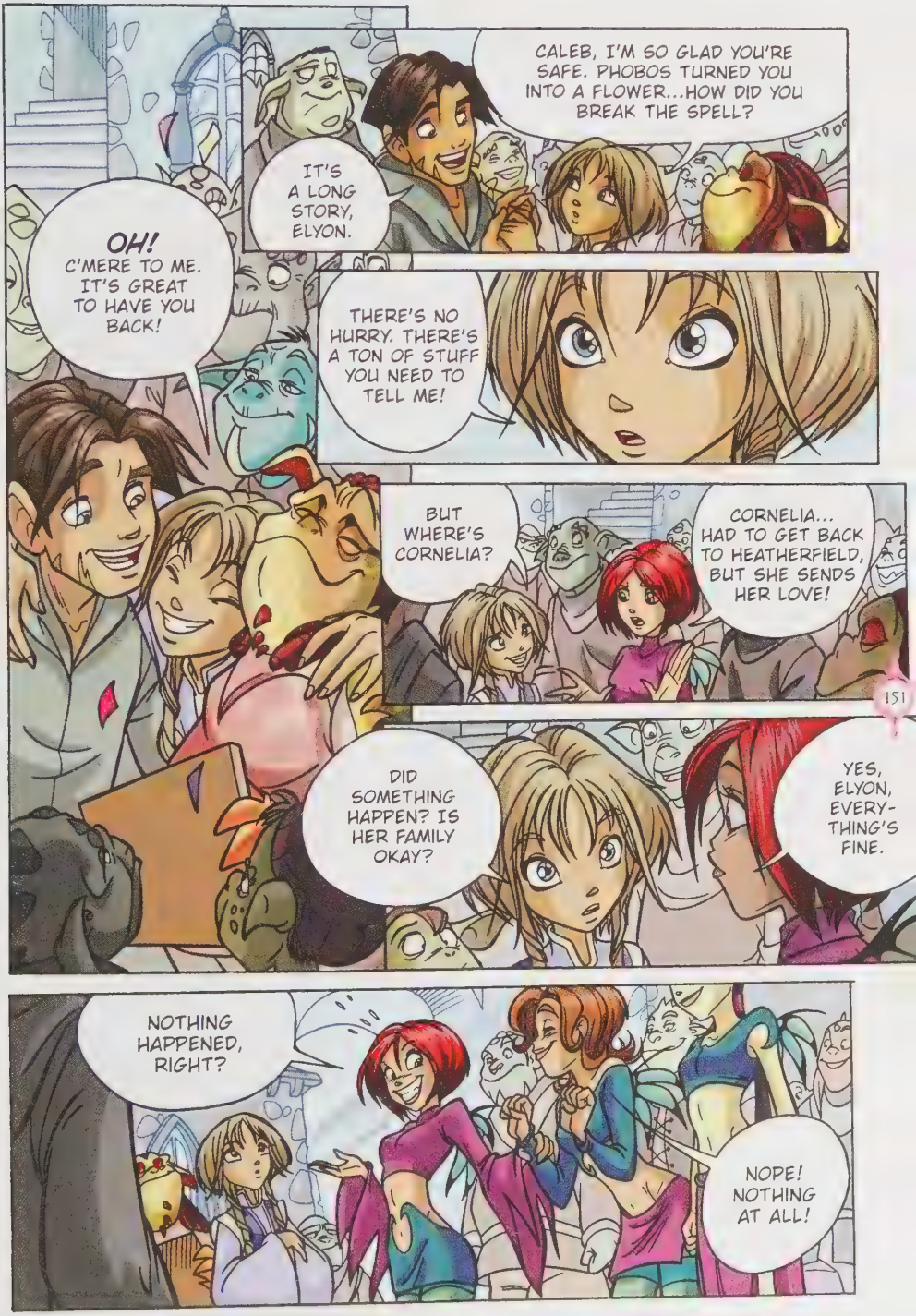

BUT NOW I HAVE TO GO BACK TO WHERE I CAME FROM.
AND BE MY TRUE SELF AGAIN!
GOOD-BYE, MS. RUDOLPH.
MS. RUDOLPH DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE. NOW THERE'S JUST GALGHEITA.
THEN GOOD-BYE, GALGHEITA!
WZZZ
YOU'LL BE THERE IN A SEC. CLOSE YOUR EYES...
"...AND YOU'LL OPEN THEM IN KANDRAKAR!"
OH... HERE ALREADY?
DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TRIP, MA'AM?

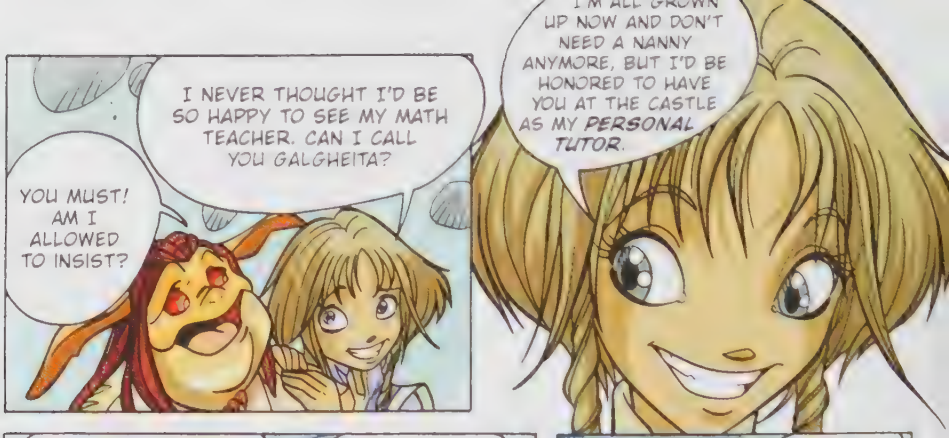
CORNELIA DIDN'T CHANGE HER MIND. SHE SAID SHE'D STAY IN HEATHERFIELD, AND SHE DID.
YOU SHOULD KNOW HER BY NOW. OUR FRIEND'S AS STUBBORN AS A MULE!
THE PASSAGE TO MERIDIAN IS READY FOR YOU. FAREWELL, GUARDIANS.
SEE YOU SOON, TIBOR.
WHEN YOU NEED A HAND, GIVE US A CALL...BUT NOT TOO SOON I HOPE!
SOMEDAY I'LL GET USED TO YOUR FLIPPANCY!
147
I KNOW I'VE SAID T ALREADY, BUT I'M SO PROUD OF YOU— OF WHAT YOU ARE AND OF EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE!
THE GUARDIANS AND THEIR FRIENDS SLOWLY VANISH IN A FLASH OF BLINDING LIGHT...
...A RAY THAT LEAVES THE FORTRESS AT THE CENTER OF INFINITY AND TRAVELS TO ONE OF THE THOUSANDS OF WORLDS PROTECTED BY KANDRAKAR.

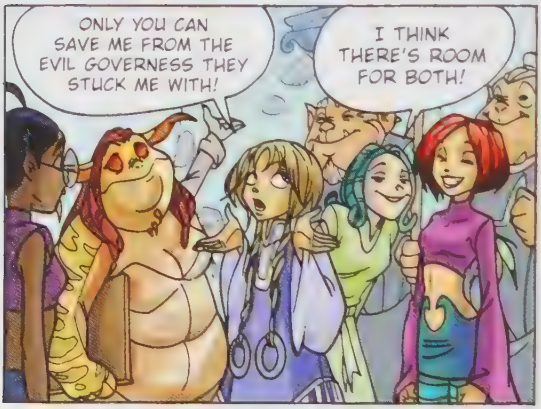
THE LIGHT TRAVERSES DISTANT UNIVERSES AND REALITIES, BYPASSING UNIMAGINABLE PLACES AND DIMENSIONS...
...REACHING ITS DESTINATION IN MOMENTS.
MERIDIAN.
SHA - WAAAM

LET'S TRY AGAIN, YOUR HIGHNESS.
THIS TIME, I WON'T SHOW THEM IN ORDER. WHAT LETTER IS THIS?
CAN I HAVE A CLUE?
EXCUSE ME?
A CLUE! YOU GET THEM ON TV QUIZ SHOWS. A CLUE IS A KIND OF...FRIENDLY TIP!
BUT I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'VE EVER SEEN A QUIZ SHOW, HAVE YOU?
PRECISELY, YOUR HIGHNESS.
ELYON!
ZAM
UM...FORGIVE MY INTERRUPTION, YOUR HIGHESS. I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BUSY.
WHAT'S UP, MOM...ER... CAPTAIN MIRIADEL?

THERE'S SOMETHING IN TOWN YOU SHOULD SEE!
WE'LL TAKE A SHORT BREAK FROM THE LESSON, THEN.
EH... I HAVE A FEELING IT WON'T BE THAT SHORT.
?
ELYON!
GIRLS!
WHAT A LOVELY SURPRISE! WHAT'S GOING ON? A PARTY?
WE JUST GAVE A COUPLE PEOPLE A LIFT.
AND THEY SEEM TO BE PRETTY POPULAR AROUND HERE!
CALEB! MS. RUDOLPH!
LIGHT OF MERIDIAN!
YOUR HIGHNESS!


CALEB, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE SAFE. PHOBOS TURNED YOU INTO A FLOWER...HOW DID YOU BREAK THE SPELL?
IT'S A LONG STORY, ELYON.
OH! C'MERE TO ME. IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU BACK!
THERE'S NO HURRY. THERE'S A TON OF STUFF YOU NEED TO TELL ME!
BUT WHERE'S CORNELIA?
CORNELIA... HAD TO GET BACK TO HEATHERFIELD, BUT SHE SENDS HER LOVE!
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN? IS HER FAMILY OKAY?
YES, ELYON, EVERY-THING'S FINE.
NOTHING HAPPENED, RIGHT?
NOPE! NOTHING AT ALL!


I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE SO HAPPY TO SEE MY MATH TEACHER. CAN I CALL YOU GALGHEITA?
YOU MUST! AM I ALLOWED TO INSIST?
I'M ALL GROWN UP NOW AND DON'T NEED A NANNY ANYMORE, BUT I'D BE HONORED TO HAVE YOU AT THE CASTLE AS MY PERSONAL TUTOR.


ONLY YOU CAN SAVE ME FROM THE EVIL GOVERNESS THEY STUCK ME WITH!
I THINK THERE'S ROOM FOR BOTH!

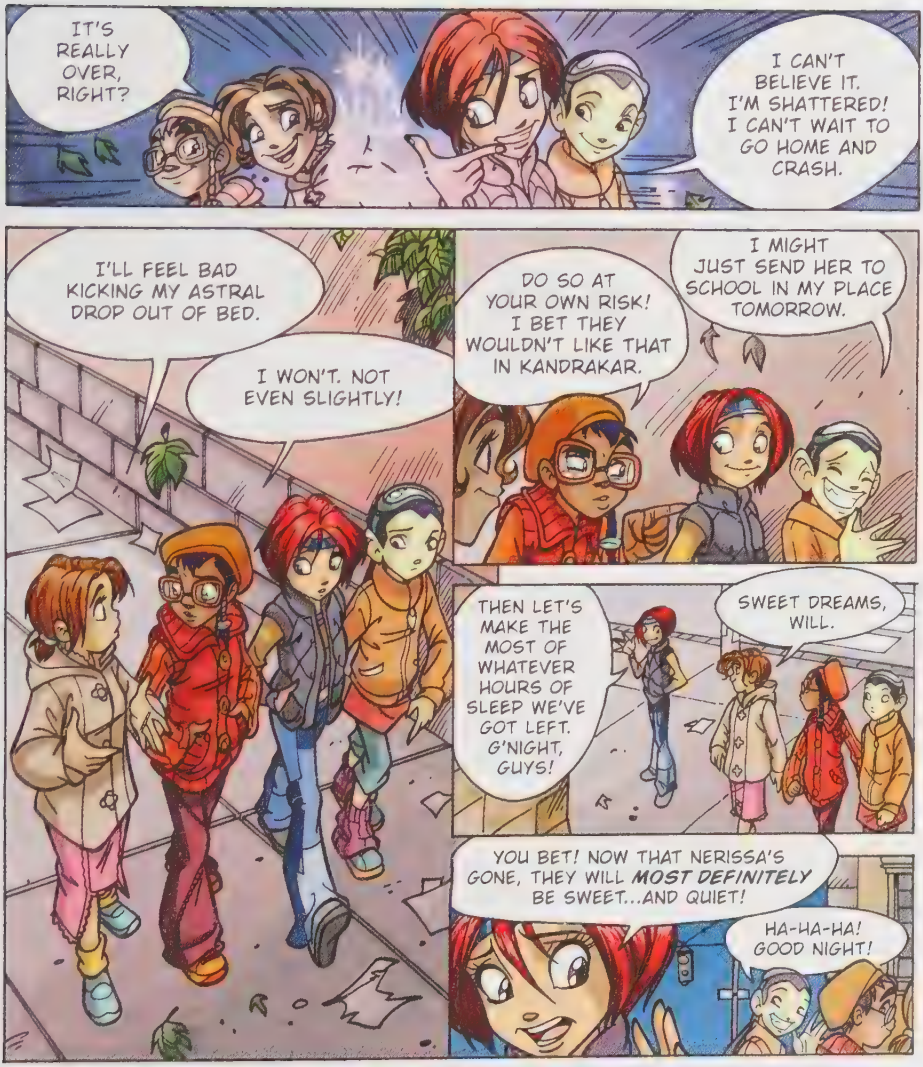
=SIGH=
YOU CAN'T TAKE THAT BACK, ELYON. NOW YOU'RE IN TROUBLE!

IT'S CALEB!
!
THE PEOPLE OF MERIDIAN ARE CALLING FOR YOU, BOY!
CALEB'S BACK!
CALEB!

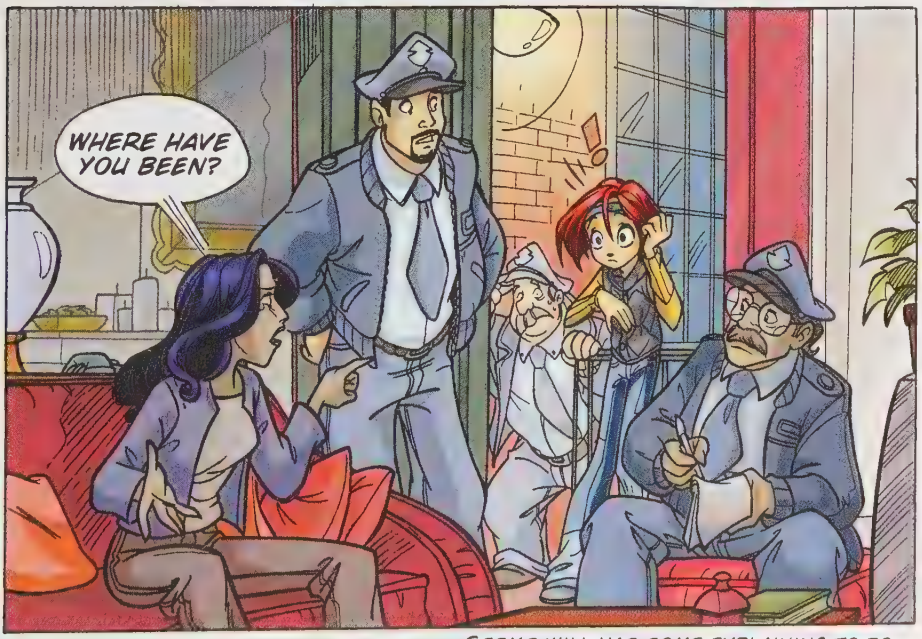
MAY I, YOUR HIGHNESS?
THEY'RE ALL YOURS, CALEB!

CALEB!
VATHEK! MY FRIEND!
HEY, BIG GUY! WE WANNA HUG HIM TOO!
NO WAY! NOW IT'S MY TURN!
HOW UNGRATEFUL. I USED TO BE THEIR FAVORITE!
SHOULD I START WORRYING ABOUT HIS POPULARITY?
IF I WERE YOU, I'D TOSS HIM INTO PRISON FOR A COUPLE CENTURIES.
THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA! PEOPLE ARE QUICK TO FORGET.
SHAME ON YOU! THAT'S NOT FUNNY.
WHO'S JOKING?
I'M NOT!

I HOPE YOU'LL STAY A BIT LONGER THIS TIME.
I'M REAL SORRY, ELYON, BUT WE GOTTA RUN.
BUT WE'LL BE BACK SOON, AND NEXT TIME, WE'LL BRING CORNELIA!
YOU'RE LEAVING NOW? WITHOUT SAYING BYE TO CALEB?
NO, LET HIM ENJOY HIS PARTY.
SAY BYE FOR US!
"WE'RE SURE HE'LL UNDERSTAND."
VOILÀ!

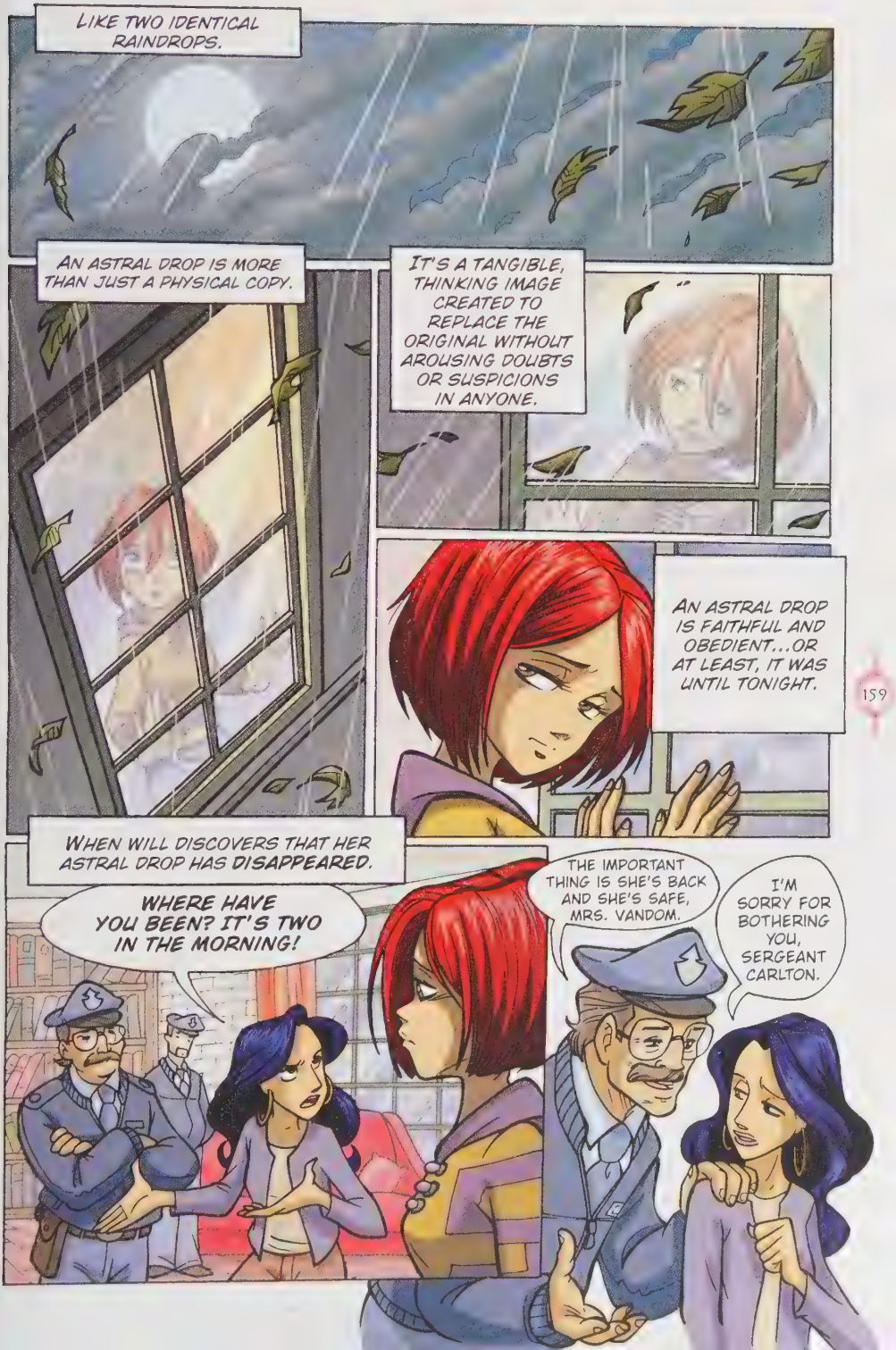

IT'S REALLY OVER, RIGHT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. I'M SHATTERED! I CAN'T WAIT TO GO HOME AND CRASH.
I'LL FEEL BAD KICKING MY ASTRAL DROP OUT OF BED.
I WON'T. NOT EVEN SLIGHTLY!
DO SO AT YOUR OWN RISK! I BET THEY WOULDN'T LIKE THAT IN KANDRAKAR.
I MIGHT JUST SEND HER TO SCHOOL IN MY PLACE TOMORROW.
THEN LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF WHATEVER HOURS OF SLEEP WE'VE GOT LEFT. G'NIGHT, GUYS!
SWEET DREAMS, WILL.
YOU BET! NOW THAT NERISSA'S GONE, THEY WILL MOST DEFINITELY BE SWEET...AND QUIET!
HA-HA-HA! GOOD NIGHT!
IT'S WEIRD SEEING THE TOWN SO EMPTY. HEATHERFIELD'S NEVER SEEMED SO QUIET!

IT'S BEAUTIFUL, BUT A BIT CREEPY. THANK GOODNESS I'M HERE AND...
OH NO! THE LIGHT'S STILL ON AT HOME!
A POLICE CAR OUTSIDE? WHAT'S IT DOING HERE?
I HAVE A BAD FEELING.
HEY! SLOW DOWN, GIRL!
NO...NO... NO...



SEEMS WILL HAS SOME EXPLAINING TO DO...

"You didn't
deserve to be
let down like
that. Neither
of us did...

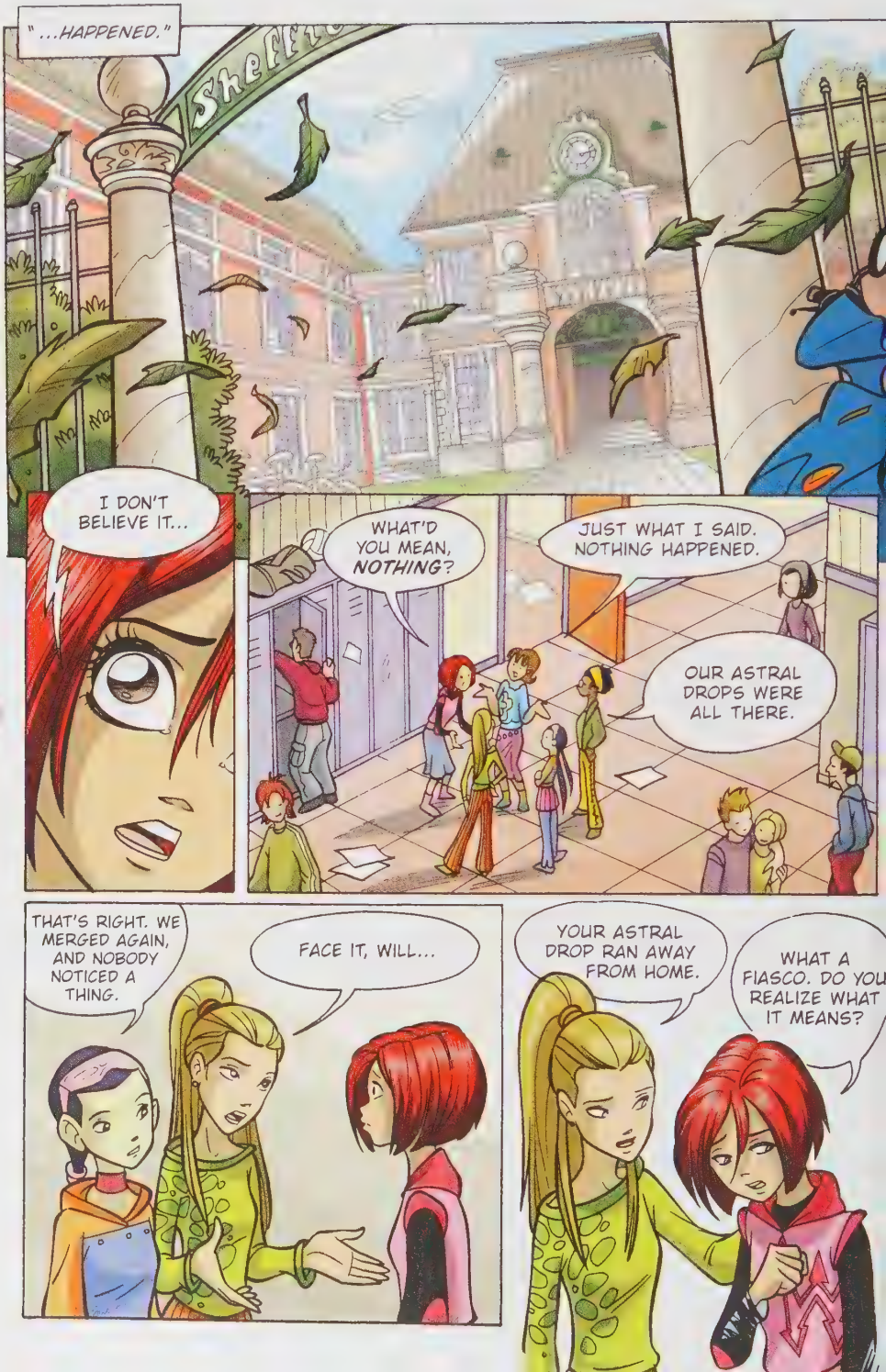

LIKE TWO IDENTICAL RAINDROPS.
AN ASTRAL DROP IS MORE THAN JUST A PHYSICAL COPY.
IT'S A TANGIBLE, THINKING IMAGE CREATED TO REPLACE THE ORIGINAL WITHOUT AROUSING DOUBTS OR SUSPICIONS IN ANYONE.
AN ASTRAL DROP IS FAITHFUL AND OBEDIENT... OR AT LEAST, IT WAS UNTIL TONIGHT.
WHEN WILL DISCOVERS THAT HER ASTRAL DROP HAS DISAPPEARED.
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? IT'S TWO IN THE MORNING!
THE IMPORTANT THING IS SHE'S BACK AND SHE'S SAFE, MRS. VANDOM.
I'M SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU, SERGEANT CARLTON.

NO BOTHER. WE WERE JUST DOING OUR JOB.
MAY I SUGGEST YOU NOT BE TOO HARD ON YOUR DAUGHTER?
THAT I CAN'T PROMISE. ANYWAY, THANKS FOR EVERYTHING.
GOOD NIGHT.
MOM, I CAN EXPLAIN!
EXPLAIN? WHAT'S THERE TO EXPLAIN?
WHEN I CAME IN YOUR ROOM TO SAY GOOD NIGHT, IT WAS EMPTY.
I ASKED YOU A QUESTION, WILL!
THERE... COBALT BLUE WERE PLAYING AT A CLUB, AND... AND...
YOU SAID YOU'D BE READING, BUT INSTEAD YOU RAN OFF LIKE A THIEF IN THE NIGHT! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
THE TRUTH WOULD BE HARD TO EXPLAIN AND IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE.

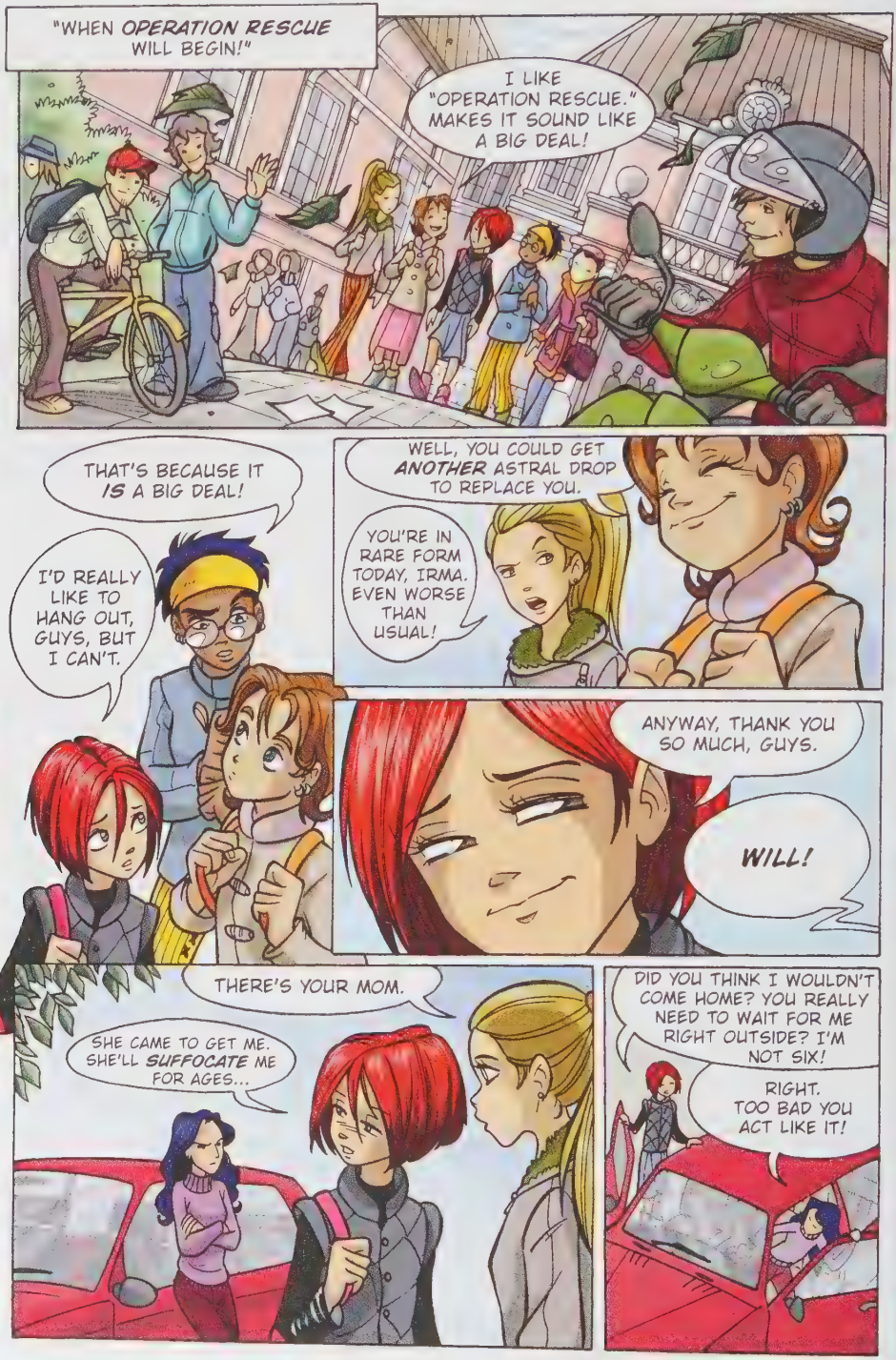
SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D GO WITHOUT TELLING ME, WITHOUT ASKING FOR PERMISSION, WHICH I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE GIVEN?
I DIDN'T THINK, MOM!
I'M DISAPPOINTED, WILL. I THOUGHT I COULD TRUST YOU! WE'VE HAD OUR PROBLEMS, BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL SORTED NOW.
OBVIOUSLY, I WAS WRONG.
STUPID ASTRAL DROP. YOU'VE RUINED EVERYTHING. EVERY-THING!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT, MOM. BUT I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT!
SPARE ME THE THEATRICS, WILL, AND GO TO SLEEP. IT'S LATE, AND YOU'VE GOT SCHOOL TOMORROW.
I'M SO SORRY.
YOUR STUNT WILL HAVE CONSEQUENCES. YOU'RE GROUNDED, AND NO PHONE.
I'M TAKING THE SIM CARD. SINCE YOU'LL BE SPENDING PLENTY OF TIME HOME, YOU CAN USE THE LANDLINE.
!

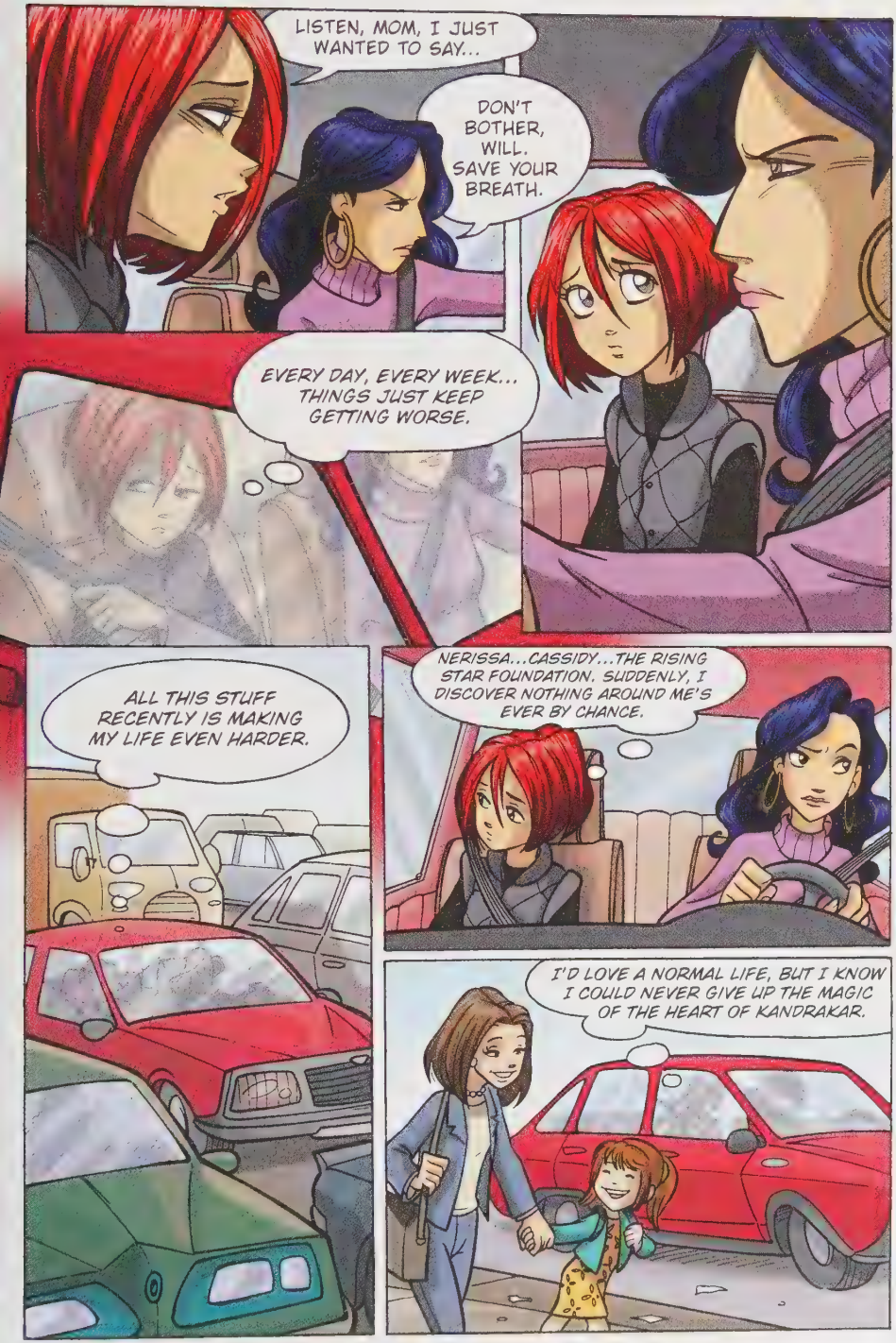
CLUNK
I'M TRAPPED, DORMOUSE. NO WAY TO WIGGLE OUT OF THIS.
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY ASTRAL DROP SHE SHOULD HAV STAYED HERE TIL I GOT BACK.

WHY'D SHE LEAVE? AND **WHERE** DID SHE GO? SHE LEFT WHEN MOM WAS HOME, WITHOUT MAKING A SOUND! BUT...
SHE COULD HAVE JUST **DISAPPEARED**. OF COURSE!
I CREATED HER WHEN MY POWERS WERE STILL **WEAK**. THE ASTRAL DROP **DISSOLVED** EARLIER THAN I PLANNED.
THAT MEANS THE OTHERS MUST HAVE HAD THE SAME PROBLEM. **WHAT A MESS!**
NOW IT'S TOO LATE TO CALL. TOMORROW AT SCHOOL I'LL FIND OUT WHAT...


"...HAPPENED."
I DON'T BELIEVE IT...
WHAT'D YOU MEAN, NOTHING?
JUST WHAT I SAID. NOTHING HAPPENED.
OUR ASTRAL DROPS WERE ALL THERE.
THAT'S RIGHT. WE MERGED AGAIN, AND NOBODY NOTICED A THING.
FACE IT, WILL...
YOUR ASTRAL DROP RAN AWAY FROM HOME.
WHAT A FIASCO. DO YOU REALIZE WHAT IT MEANS?

THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE WHO LOOKS EXACLTY LIKE ME, TALKS LIKE ME, AND HAS SOME OF MY MEMORIES.
SOMEONE WHO'S NOT ME!
AND I CAN'T POSSIBLY ASK THE POLICE TO HELP ME FIND HER.
YOU CAN COUNT ON US, THOUGH.
RIGHT! WE'LL SPLIT UP AND LOOK EVERYWHERE. YOUR DOUBLE CAN'T BE FAR.
BUT I CAN'T HELP YOU. I'M GROUNDED.
THAT'S NOT SO BAD. IF SHE COMES HOME, YOU'LL BE WAITING.
DRIIIIN
BACK TO WORK, KIDS! BREAK'S OVER!
THEN WE'RE ON. SEE YOU AFTER SCHOOL.

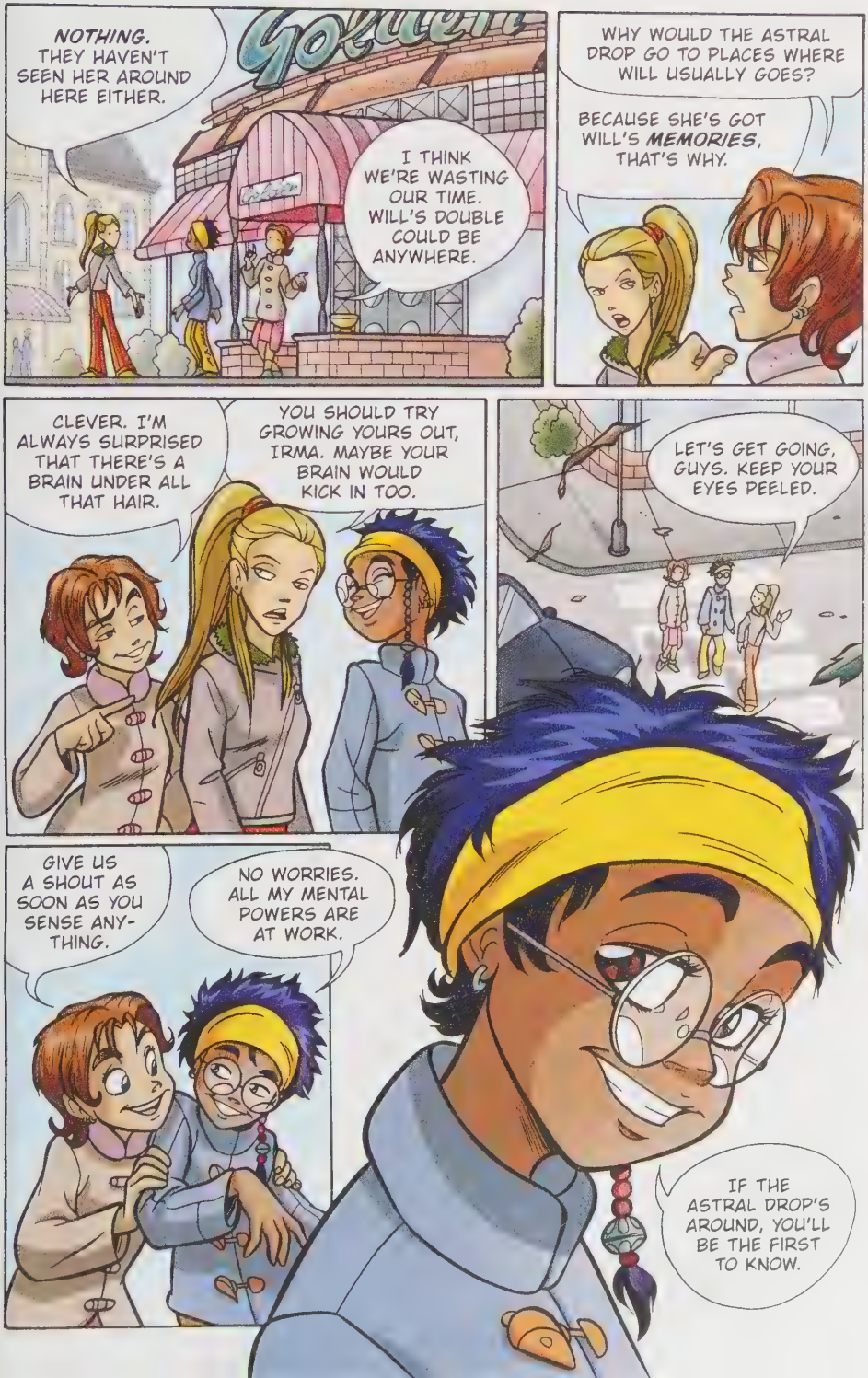

"WHEN OPERATION RESCUE WILL BEGIN!"
I LIKE "OPERATION RESCUE." MAKES IT SOUND LIKE A BIG DEAL!
THAT'S BECAUSE IT IS A BIG DEAL!
I'D REALLY LIKE TO HANG OUT, GUYS, BUT I CAN'T.
WELL, YOU COULD GET ANOTHER ASTRAL DROP TO REPLACE YOU.
YOU'RE IN RARE FORM TODAY, IRMA. EVEN WORSE THAN USUAL!
ANYWAY, THANK YOU SO MUCH, GUYS.
WILL!
THERE'S YOUR MOM.
SHE CAME TO GET ME. SHE'LL SUFFOCATE ME FOR AGES...
DID YOU THINK I WOULDN'T COME HOME? YOU REALLY NEED TO WAIT FOR ME RIGHT OUTSIDE? I'M NOT SIX!
RIGHT. TOO BAD YOU ACT LIKE IT!


LISTEN, MOM, I JUST WANTED TO SAY...
DON'T BOTHER, WILL. SAVE YOUR BREATH.
EVERY DAY, EVERY WEEK... THINGS JUST KEEP GETTING WORSE.
ALL THIS STUFF RECENTLY IS MAKING MY LIFE EVEN HARDER.
NERISSA...CASSIDY...THE RISING STAR FOUNDATION. SUDDENLY, I DISCOVER NOTHING AROUND ME'S EVER BY CHANCE.
I'D LOVE A NORMAL LIFE, BUT I KNOW I COULD NEVER GIVE UP THE MAGIC OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR.

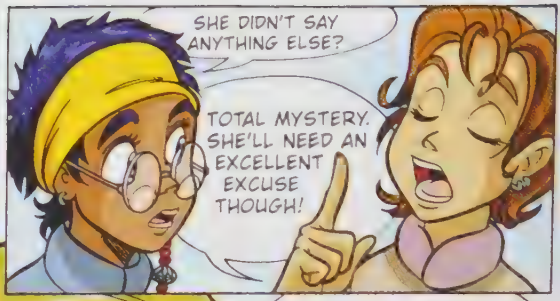
WHAT I NEED NOW IS MY ROCK.
AND THE ONLY ONE I HAD DOESN'T WANT TO TALK TO ME NOW.
LUNCH'S IN THE FRIDGE, WILL.
SOMEDAY I'LL TELL HIM EVERYTHING. I TRIED AT THE PARTY*, BUT NERISSA RUINED IT.
THANK GOODNESS I'VE GOT MY FRIENDS... AND MATT.
*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #20

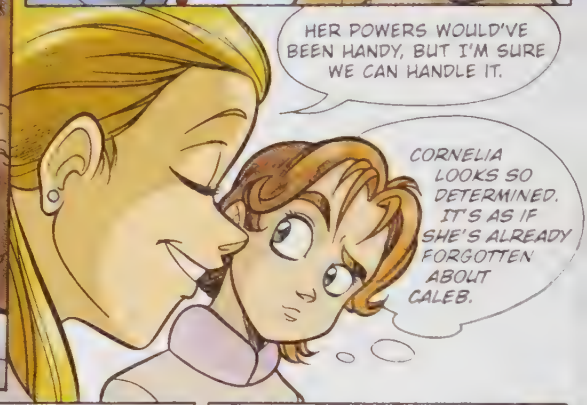
MATT!
!
MATT'S PHOTOS! THEY WERE HERE, AND NOW THEY'RE GONE.
I HAVE A BAD FEELING...
MOM WOULDN'T TAKE THEM.
IT MUST HAVE BEEN MY ASTRAL DROP. BUT WHY?

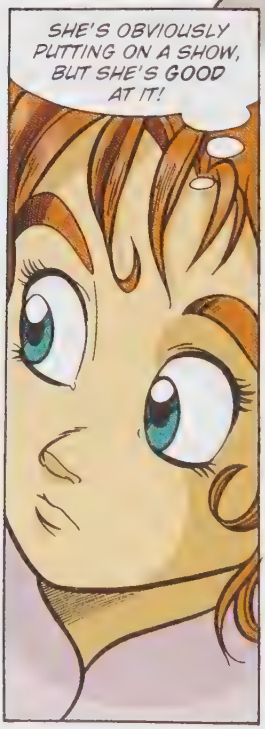
HEATHERFIELD. HOW BIG IS THIS CITY?
MAYBE IT'S HUGE, MAYBE MICROSCOPIC. WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?
I HAVEN'T STOPPED WALKING. I'M NOT TIRED.
I JUST WANT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE.
FAR AWAY.
AND FREE FROM ALL EVIL.

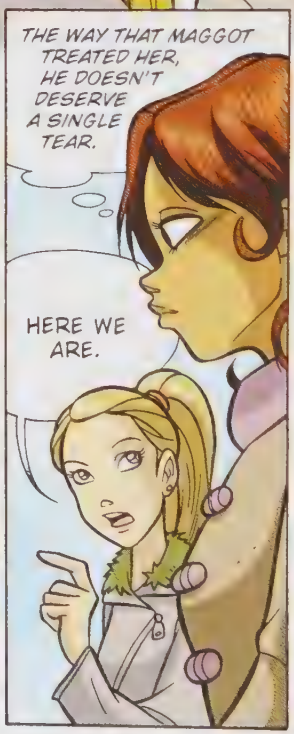

NOTHING. THEY HAVEN'T SEEN HER AROUND HERE EITHER.
I THINK WE'RE WASTING OUR TIME. WILL'S DOUBLE COULD BE ANYWHERE.
WHY WOULD THE ASTRAL DROP GO TO PLACES WHERE WILL USUALLY GOES?
BECAUSE SHE'S GOT WILL'S MEMORIES, THAT'S WHY.
CLEVER. I'M ALWAYS SURPRISED THAT THERE'S A BRAIN UNDER ALL THAT HAIR.
YOU SHOULD TRY GROWING YOURS OUT, IRMA. MAYBE YOUR BRAIN WOULD KICK IN TOO.
LET'S GET GOING, GUYS. KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED.
GIVE US A SHOUT AS SOON AS YOU SENSE ANY-THING.
NO WORRIES. ALL MY MENTAL POWERS ARE AT WORK.
IF THE ASTRAL DROP'S AROUND, YOU'LL BE THE FIRST TO KNOW.

ANYTHING FROM HAY LIN?
SHE SAID SHE'D FIND US LATER. SHE HAD SOME SUPER-IMPORTANT MEETING!

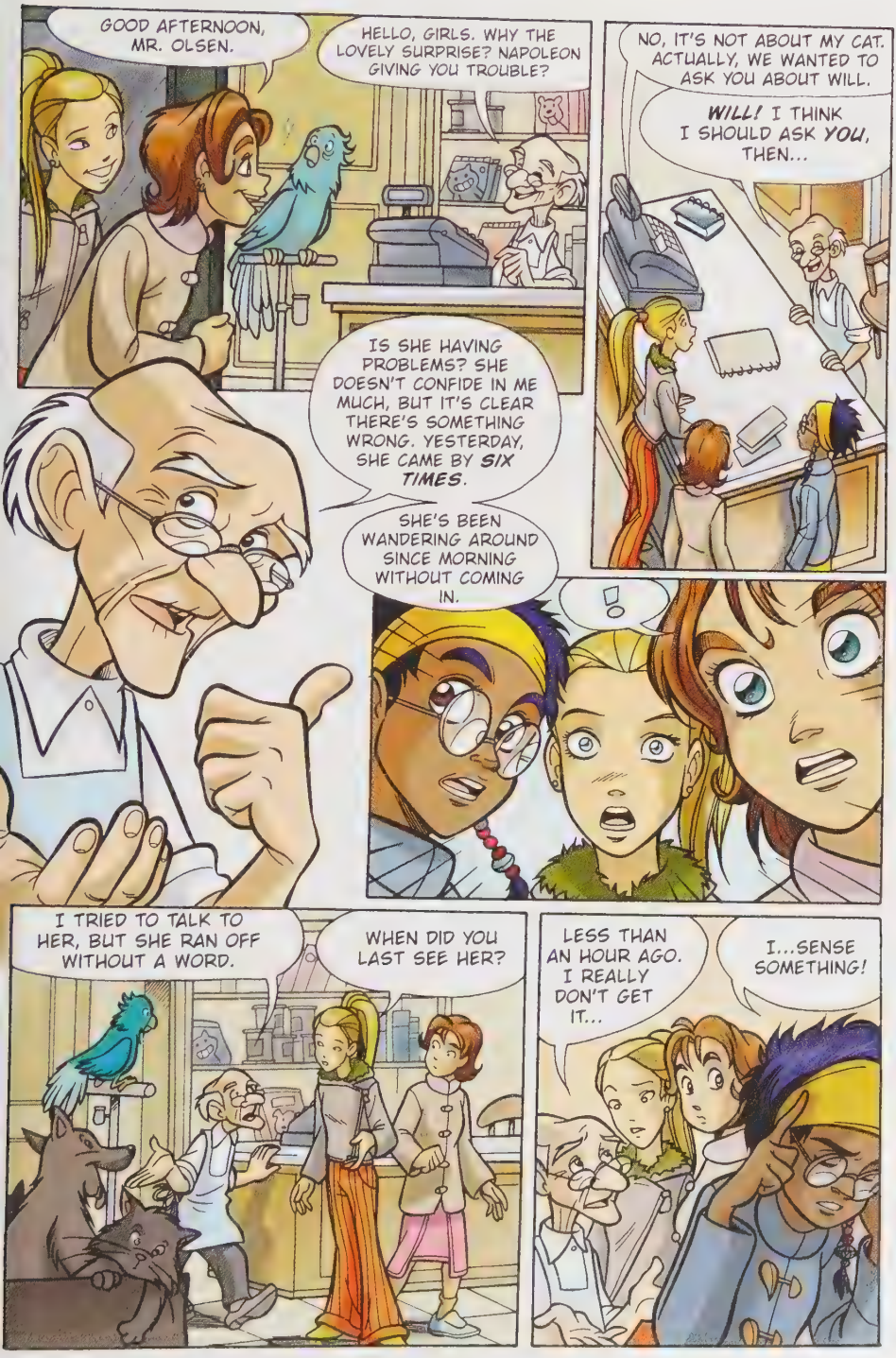

SHE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ELSE?
TOTAL MYSTERY. SHE'LL NEED AN EXCELLENT EXCUSE THOUGH!

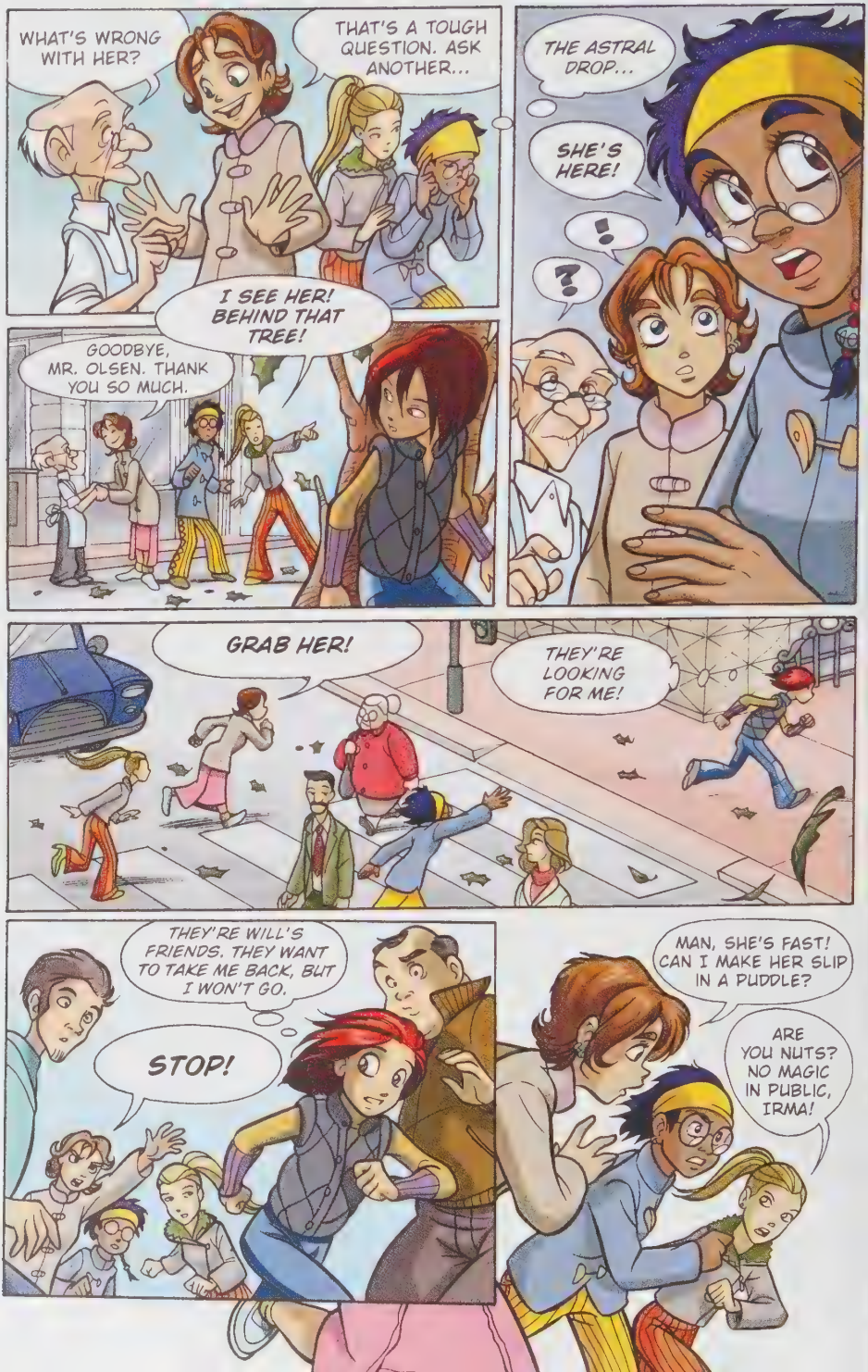

HER POWERS WOULD'VE BEEN HANDY, BUT I'M SURE WE CAN HANDLE IT.
CORNELIA LOOKS SO DETERMINED. IT'S AS IF SHE'S ALREADY FORGOTTEN ABOUT CALEB.

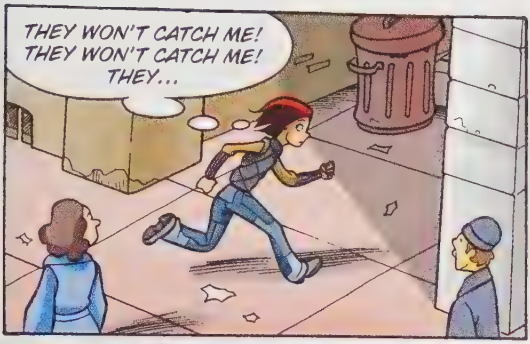

SHE'S OBVIOUSLY PUTTING ON A SHOW, BUT SHE'S GOOD AT IT!


THE WAY THAT MAGGOT TREATED HER, HE DOESN'T DESERVE A SINGLE TEAR.
HERE WE ARE.

IT'S MATT'S GRANDAD'S PET SHOP.
ANOTHER ADDRESS ON OUR LIST. THAT'S WHERE WILL WORKS A FEW AFTERNOONS A WEEK.


GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. OLSEN.
HELLO, GIRLS. WHY THE LOVELY SURPRISE? NAPOLEON GIVING YOU TROUBLE?
NO, IT'S NOT ABOUT MY CAT. ACTUALLY, WE WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT WILL.
WILL! I THINK I SHOULD ASK YOU, THEN...
IS SHE HAVING PROBLEMS? SHE DOESN'T CONFIDE IN ME MUCH, BUT IT'S CLEAR THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG. YESTERDAY, SHE CAME BY SIX TIMES.
SHE'S BEEN WANDERING AROUND SINCE MORNING WITHOUT COMING IN.
!
I TRIED TO TALK TO HER, BUT SHE RAN OFF WITHOUT A WORD.
WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE HER?
LESS THAN AN HOUR AGO. I REALLY DON'T GET IT...
I...SENSE SOMETHING!

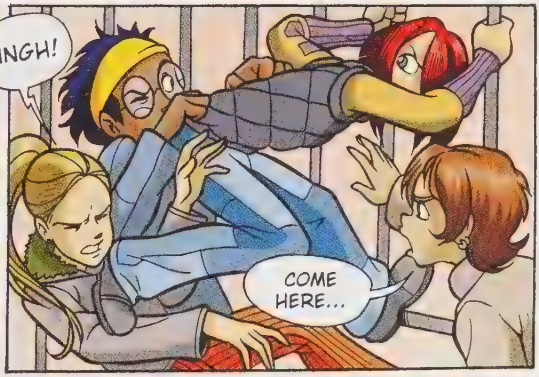

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?
THAT'S A TOUGH QUESTION. ASK ANOTHER...
I SEE HER! BEHIND THAT TREE!
GOODBYE, MR. OLSEN. THANK YOU SO MUCH.
THE ASTRAL DROP...
SHE'S HERE!
!
?
GRAB HER!
THEY'RE LOOKING FOR ME!
THEY'RE WILL'S FRIENDS. THEY WANT TO TAKE ME BACK, BUT I WON'T GO.
STOP!
MAN, SHE'S FAST! CAN I MAKE HER SLIP IN A PUDDLE?
ARE YOU NUTS? NO MAGIC IN PUBLIC, IRMA!


THEY WON'T CATCH ME! THEY WON'T CATCH ME! THEY...

!

YOU'RE STUCK!
DON'T BE AFRAID. WE WON'T HURT YOU.
YOU'RE LIARS!

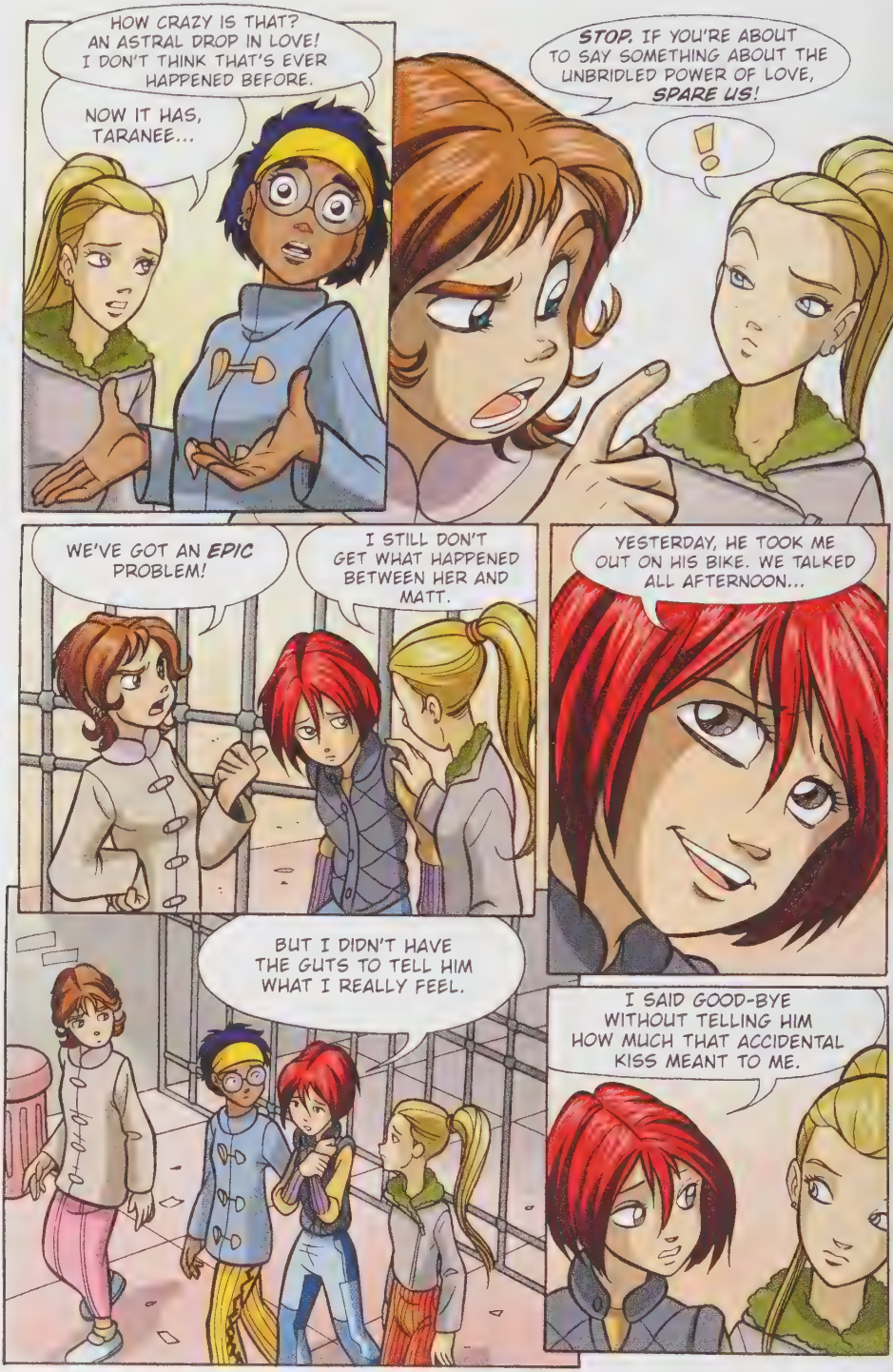
HNNF!
QUICK, DON'T LET HER GET AWAY!


UNGH!
COME HERE...

!
!
RRIIIP

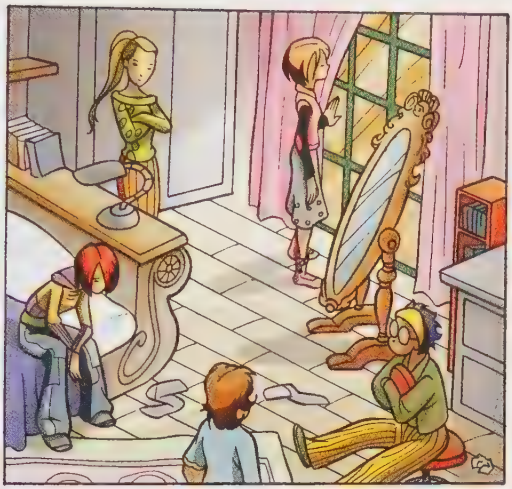
MATT'S PHOTOS!
DON'T TOUCH THEM!
SGIAF
!
DON'T TOUCH THEM!
CALM DOWN. CALM DOWN!
YOU OKAY, IRMA?
YEAH, I'M FINE.
PLEASE, LET ME GO. DON'T TAKE ME BACK TO HER!
DON'T BRING ME BACK. I DON'T WANNA DISAPPEAR AGAIN...I...I WANT TO LIVE!
LIVE? DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. YOU'RE JUST AN IMITATION!
THAT'S NOT TRUE! I BREATHE! THINK! I HAVE FEELINGS, JUST LIKE YOU!

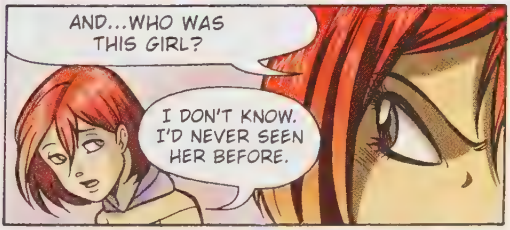
IF YOU BRING ME BACK, WILL'S GONNA ERASE ME FOREVER, AND I...I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!
WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE GUY I LOVE.
MATT OLSEN.
!
SINCE HE KISSED ME, I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM.*
BUT NOW HE'S BETRAYED ME!
I HATE HIM, BUT I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT HIM. IF YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I FEEL, HELP ME. IT HURTS!
*IF YOU'VE READ W.I.T.C.H. #4, YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THAT...
IF YOU LET ME GO, I'LL TALK TO MATT ONE LAST TIME, THEN DISAPPEAR FOREVER. I PROMISE!

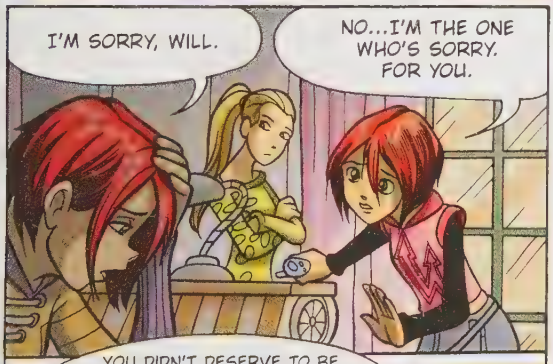

HOW CRAZY IS THAT? AN ASTRAL DROP IN LOVE! I DON'T THINK THAT'S EVER HAPPENED BEFORE.
NOW IT HAS, TARANEE...
STOP. IF YOU'RE ABOUT TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THE UNBRIDLED POWER OF LOVE, SPARE US!
!
WE'VE GOT AN EPIC PROBLEM!
I STILL DON'T GET WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN HER AND MATT.
YESTERDAY, HE TOOK ME OUT ON HIS BIKE. WE TALKED ALL AFTERNOON...
BUT I DIDN'T HAVE THE GUTS TO TELL HIM WHAT I REALLY FEEL.
I SAID GOOD-BYE WITHOUT TELLING HIM HOW MUCH THAT ACCIDENTAL KISS MEANT TO ME.

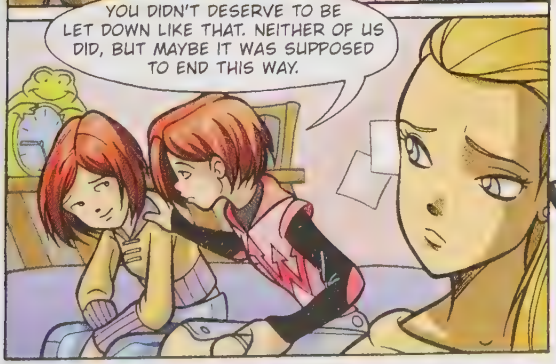
AND YOU RAN AWAY FROM HOME TO TELL HIM?
I TRIED PHONING HIM BUT COULDN'T GET THROUGH, SO I SNEAKED OUT. I KNOW IT WAS WRONG.
THAT STROKE OF GENIUS GOT WILL IN SO MUCH TROUBLE. AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
I KNOW, AND I'M SORRY... BUT I HAD TO TALK TO MATT.
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
I WANDERED AROUND FOR HOURS. HE WAS REHEARSING WITH HIS BAND.
SO I WENT THERE TO SURPRISE HIM...
...AND I SAW SOMETHING.
WHAT DID YOU SEE?
HE WAS WITH A GIRL. AND HE WAS HUGGING HER!

THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE WHO SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THIS, DON'T YOU THINK?
SURE. DO YOU WANT TO TELL HER?
NOT ON YOUR LIFE. SHE'LL TELL HER.
ME?
THAT MEANS YOU WON'T LET ME GO, RIGHT?
WE CAN'T, WILL...
CAN I CALL YOU WILL?

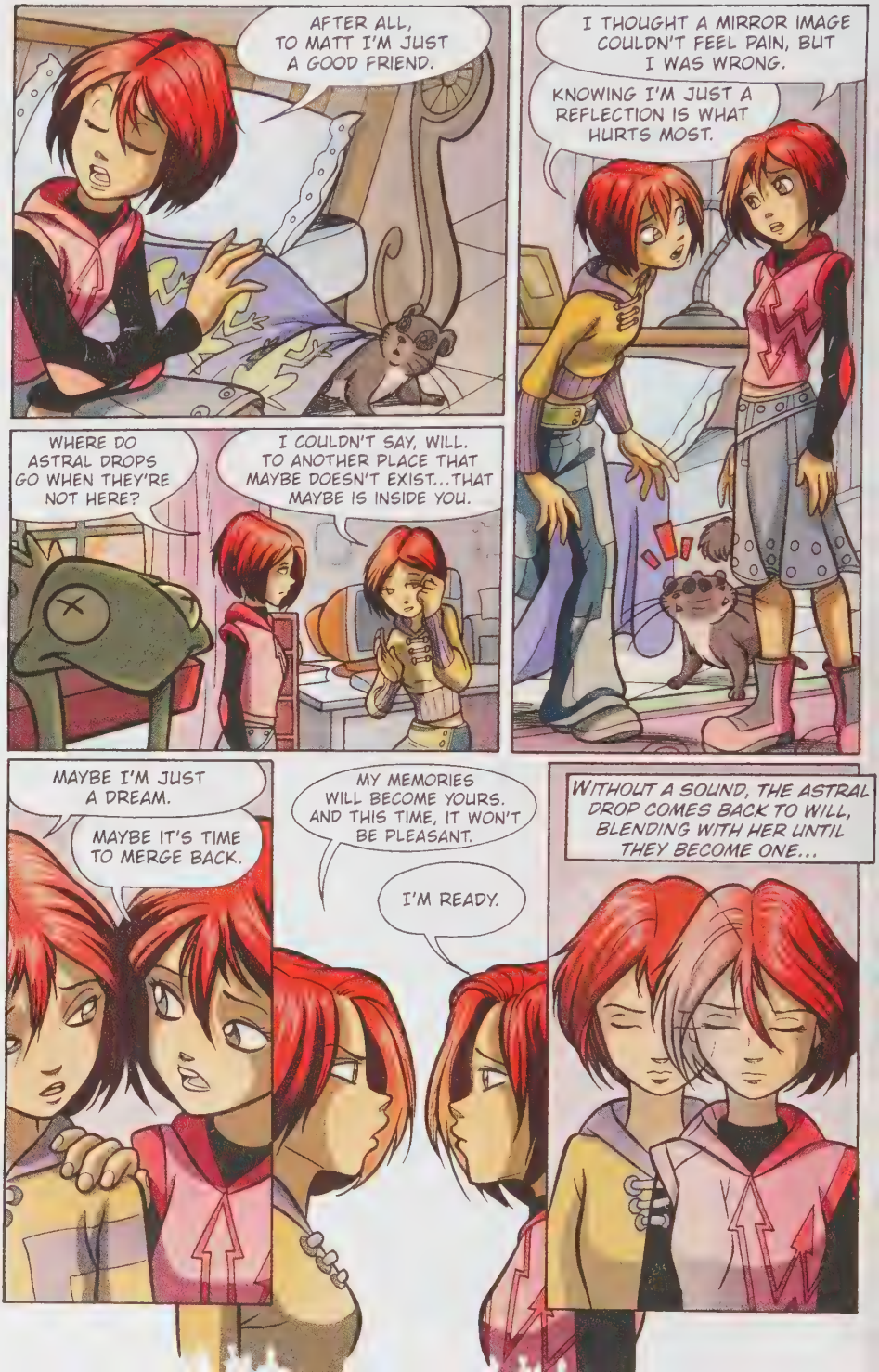


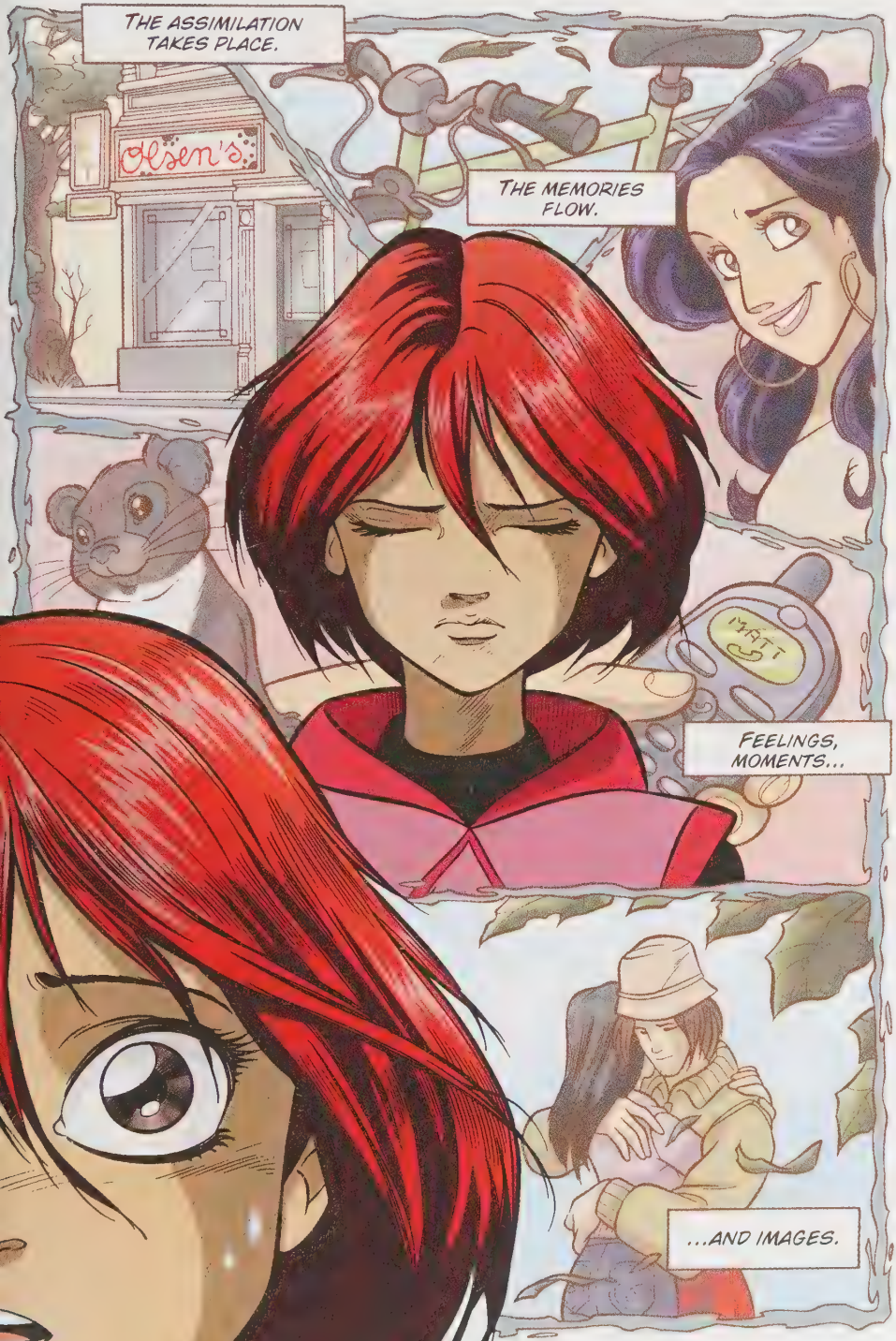

AND...WHO WAS THIS GIRL?
I DON'T KNOW. I'D NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE.

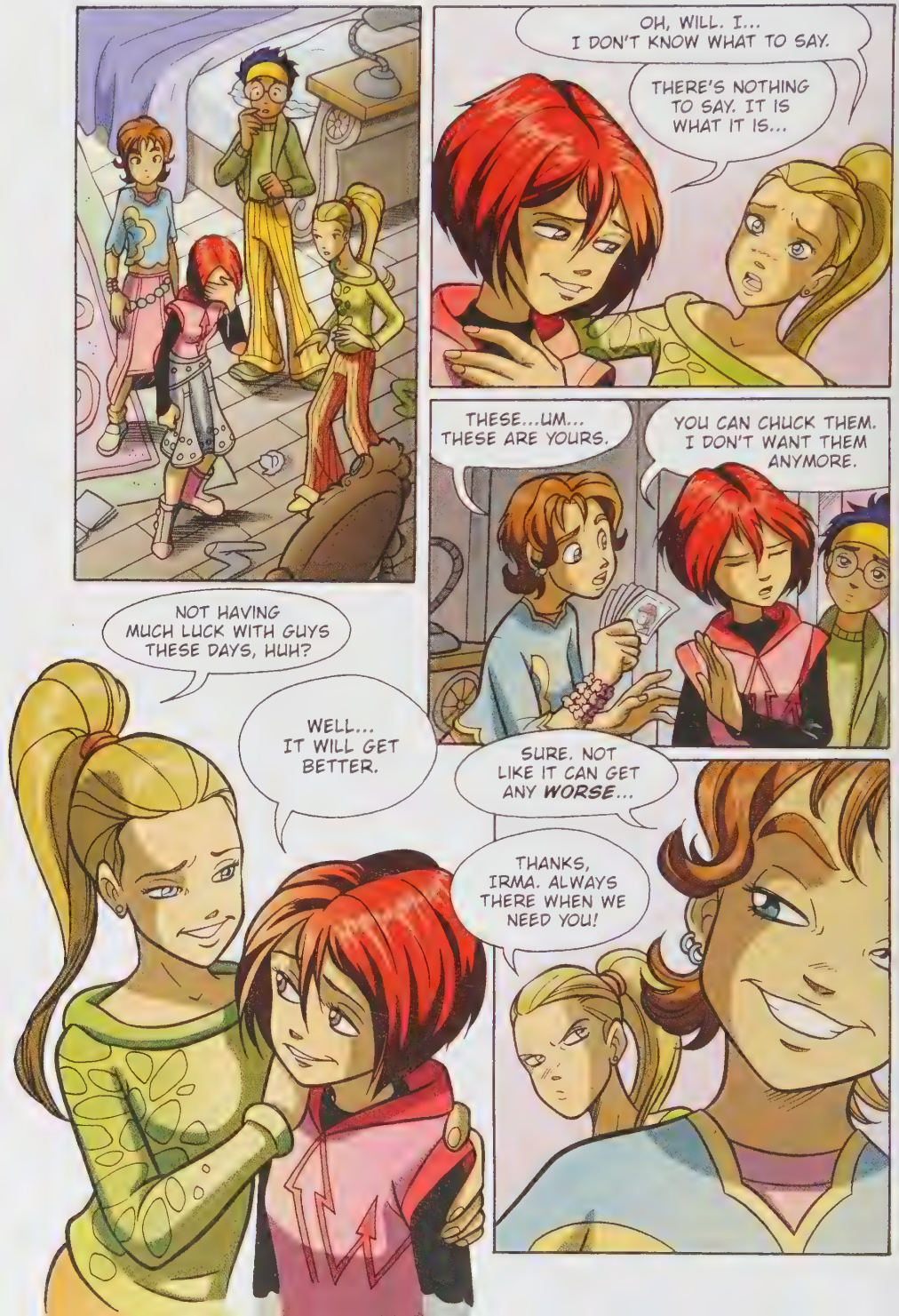

I'M SORRY, WILL.
NO...I'M THE ONE WHO'S SORRY. FOR YOU.


YOU DIDN'T DESERVE TO BE LET DOWN LIKE THAT. NEITHER OF US DID, BUT MAYBE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO END THIS WAY.

THAT KISS... THE PHOTOS...ALL THE CALLS TO MATT'S NUMBER. I FOUND THEM ON MY CELL, YOU KNOW?


AFTER ALL, TO MATT I'M JUST A GOOD FRIEND.
I THOUGHT A MIRROR IMAGE COULDN'T FEEL PAIN, BUT I WAS WRONG.
KNOWING I'M JUST A REFLECTION IS WHAT HURTS MOST.
WHERE DO ASTRAL DROPS GO WHEN THEY'RE NOT HERE?
I COULDN'T SAY, WILL. TO ANOTHER PLACE THAT MAYBE DOESN'T EXIST...THAT MAYBE IS INSIDE YOU.
MAYBE I'M JUST A DREAM.
MAYBE IT'S TIME TO MERGE BACK.
MY MEMORIES WILL BECOME YOURS. AND THIS TIME, IT WON'T BE PLEASANT.
I'M READY.
WITHOUT A SOUND, THE ASTRAL DROP COMES BACK TO WILL, BLENDING WITH HER UNTIL THEY BECOME ONE...


THE ASSIMILATION TAKES PLACE.
Olsen's
THE MEMORIES FLOW.
FEELINGS, MOMENTS...
...AND IMAGES.


OH, WILL. I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
THERE'S NOTHING TO SAY. IT IS WHAT IT IS...
THESE...UM... THESE ARE YOURS.
YOU CAN CHUCK THEM. I DON'T WANT THEM ANYMORE.
NOT HAVING MUCH LUCK WITH GUYS THESE DAYS, HUH?
WELL... IT WILL GET BETTER.
SURE. NOT LIKE IT CAN GET ANY WORSE...
THANKS, IRMA. ALWAYS THERE WHEN WE NEED YOU!

WE HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THIS. UNTIL TODAY, WE THOUGHT ASTRAL DROPS WERE EMPTY SHELLS, BUT NOW WE KNOW THAT'S NOT THE CASE.
TRUE. MAYBE WE SHOULD USE THEM ONLY WHEN WE REALLY NEED TO.
WE CAN'T NOT LIVE OUR LIVES AND HAND THEM OVER TO SOMEONE ELSE.
POOR ASTRAL DROP.
WHEREVER SHE IS NOW...
"...I HOPE SHE'S SLEEPING PEACEFULLY...
"...WITHOUT MEMORIES."

RIIIIIIING RIIIIING
THE DOOR.
I KNOW. MUST BE MY MOM.
RIIIIIIING RIIIIING
I'M COMING. CHILL OUT, I'M COMING!
WHY DOESN'T SHE JUST USE HER KEY...? I'M COMING!
TA-DAAAA!
!

SORRY IF I'M LATE. THE APPOINTMENT RAN ON A BIT...
MY DENTIST'S PRETTY THOROUGH!
BUT... THOSE ARE...
...BRACES!
AND WHAT BRACES! I DESIGNED THEM!
I FIGURED.
THEY'RE... AWESOME!

END OF CHAPTER 23

WILL + CORNY + IRMA +
TARANEE
HAY LIN =

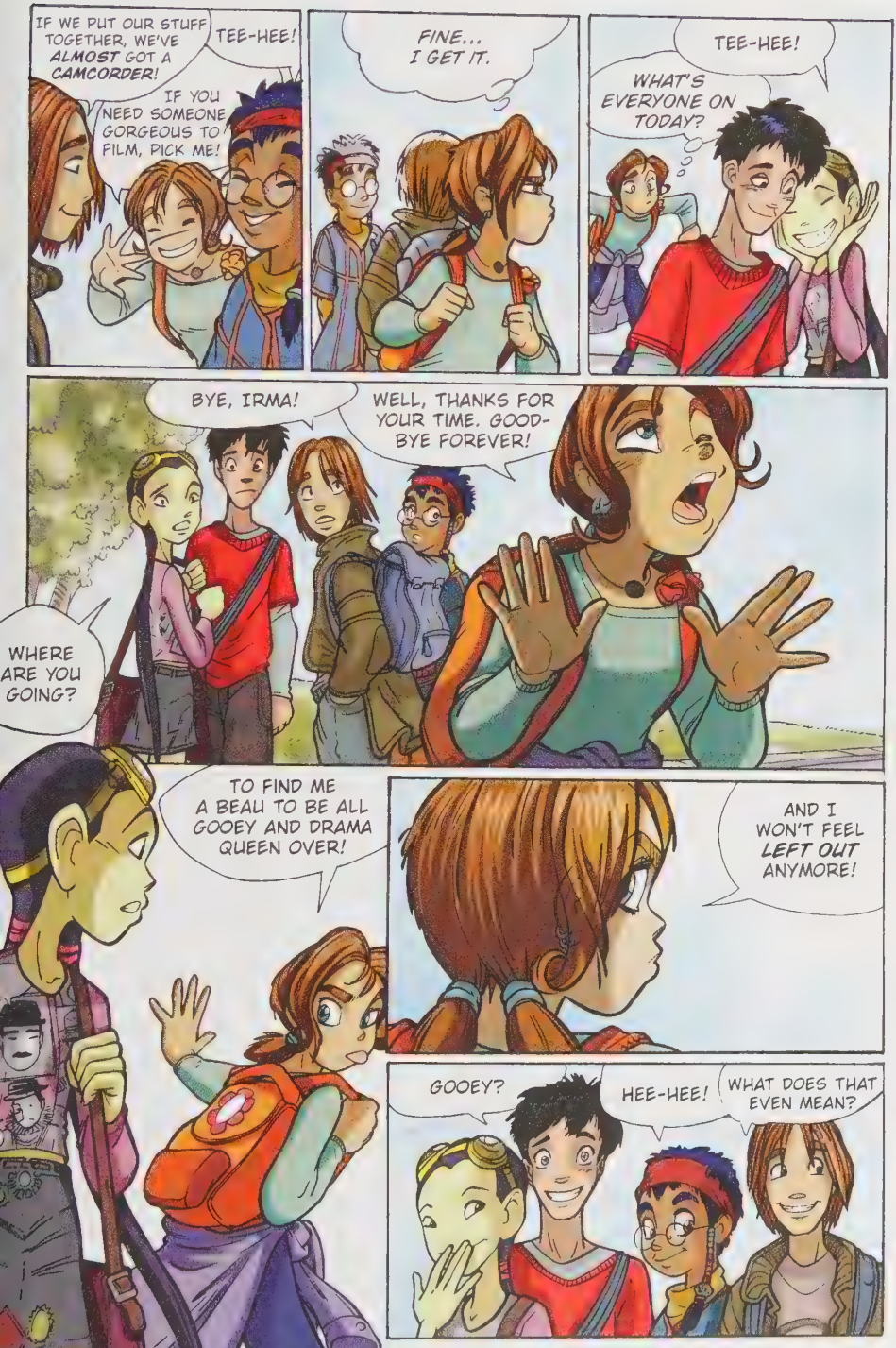
"You're so big! The last time I saw you, you were tiny..."

TECH
STRIES
I'LL CHECK RIGHT AWAY.
Please, Susan. Don't be upset.
All is not lost.
I HOPE SO. ANYWAY, THANKS FOR COMING BY.
BYE...
HERE I AM! ARE YOU BORED? GOOD! I'VE GOT A BUNCH OF PAPERWORK THAT NEEDS YOUR AUTOGRAPH.
I UNDERSTAND.
FRA
AMANDA BOLLAND! DID YOU FORGET TO TELL ME RICHARD CAME BY THIS MORNING?
HARGHHHH!
WELL...YEAH...I WAS GOING TO...HE LEFT THIS. SORRY!
NOBODY'S AS SCARY AS SUSAN WHEN SHE CALLS ME BY MY FULL NAME!
I'LL B-BE OVER THERE IF YOU NEED ME.
A GOOD SECRETARY KNOWS WHEN TO RUN!

AMANDA, I'M TAKING THE DAY OFF.
SIMULTECH INDUSTRIES
RIGHTO.

HOW CAN THE END OF SCHOOL BE UNPLEASANT?
HE'S BEHIND US. HE SEEMS TO BE ALONE.
LET'S GO. I DON'T WANNA SEE HIM.
I CAN'T STAND HIM. I HATE HIM. HE'S AWFUL, LIKE ALL GUYS!
I'M WITH YOU ON THAT.
I'M NOT.
LOOK AROUND! THERE'S PLENTY OF GORGEOUS GUYS.
SOME ARE SMART...
OTHERS ARE FRIENDLY AND FUN.
SURE, IRMA... IN ANOTHER UNIVERSE!
?!
WELL, I WOULDN'T COUNT ON OTHER UNIVERSES EITHER, THESE DAYS!
HI, WILL.
HUH?

I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.
NO CAN DO, WISE GUY. WILL HAS TO TAKE ME TO GET A... UM...PEDICURE!
?!?
WISE GUY?
PEDICURE? YUCK!
Thanks, you saved me!
IT'S GONNA BE THE BEST ARTICLE OF THE SHEFFIELD INSTITUTE MAGAZINE.
WE'RE BORN JOURNALISTS!!!
I'LL BRING THE CAMERA.
I'LL GET THE RECORDER.
BYE, MATT!


IF WE PUT OUR STUFF TOGETHER, WE'VE ALMOST GOT A CAMCORDER!
TEE-HEE!
IF YOU NEED SOMEONE GORGEOUS TO FILM, PICK ME!
FINE... I GET IT.
TEE-HEE!
WHAT'S EVERYONE ON TODAY?
BYE, IRMA!
WELL, THANKS FOR YOUR TIME. GOOD-BYE FOREVER!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO FIND ME A BEAU TO BE ALL GOOEY AND DRAMA QUEEN OVER!
AND I WON'T FEEL LEFT OUT ANYMORE!
GOOEY?
HEE-HEE!
WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?

"LET'S SEE..."
DREADLOCKS... MEH, COULD WORK, BUT HE'S A BEANPOLE! EVERY KISS WOULD BE A HIKE. TOO MUCH EFFORT.
NO, THIS ONE'S TOO STUBBY.
HI, BUTTER-FLY!
UGH...TOO MARTIN!
WOW, WHAT A CAR! MAYBE THE DRIVER'S...
...THE LAST DINOSAUR TO SURVIVE THE JURASSIC.
EXCUSE ME, MISS, COULD YOU TELL ME...?
HARGHH!
SORRY, I DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS!
SEE YOU NEVER!

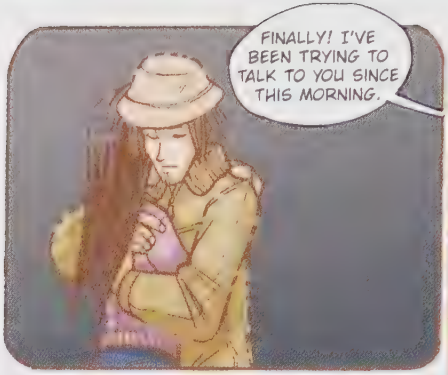
HEAVY AIR. HUMIDITY RISING.
A STORM'S COMING.
DRRRIIING
YOU'RE HOME EARLY! DID YOU GET FIRED?
DROP IT, WILL. I'M NOT IN THE MOOD.
DRRRING DRING
HELLO...
HELLO? WHO'S THERE?
GO AND GET STUFFED!
SCLONG
AN ANONYMOUS CALL TO CHEER THINGS UP... JUST WHAT WE NEEDED.
OOO

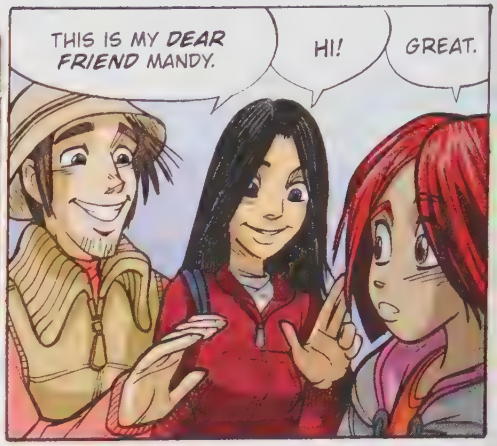
IT'S ALL RIGHT. COME IN THE KITCHEN, FOOD'S READY.
I'M NOT THAT HUNGRY TODAY.
DRIIING DRIIN
I'LL GET IT.
MOM, LEAVE IT...
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, YOU IDIOT! DROP IT, OR I'LL MAKE YOUR LIFE A MISERY!
But your life's got to be DISGUSTING already if you're wasting time with prank calls!
Um...Hello, Mrs. Vandom. I'm Karl Deplersun.

It's for you. Your coach!
Whaaat?
You could at least apologize.
You do it for me.
SORRY, COACH, MY MOM THOUGHT YOU WERE SOMEONE ELSE.
I CALLED 'COS I JUST FINISHED CHECKING YOUR FREESTYLE TIMES.
You officially qualified for the championship TIME TRIALS. Be at the pool in half an hour.
OKAY!
YESSSS!
Good to know, I thought maybe she didn't like me.
YES! YES! YES! YES! I DID IT!
GET OFF THE COUCH, YOUNG LADY!
FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION, COULD YOU LIFT THE CURFEW?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

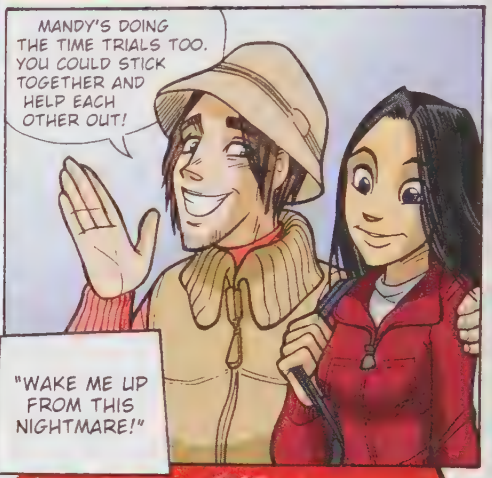
"SOMETHING THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ME, BUT WHICH YOU'VE NEVER CARED FOR."
You got permission, Miss Will. Are you happy?
I AM, JAMES. BUT I DON'T GET WHY MOM'S SO UPSET OVER SOME STUPID CALL.
Hey, Ed. Did she have a fight with Mr. Collins?
As far as I know, everything's peachy.
As for the roses... they arrived this morning WITHOUT A CARD.
A bit more discretion if you will, Edward!
AND...DISCREETLY... COULD YOU TELL ME WHO'S MAKING THE ANONYMOUS CALLS?
My work ethic won't let me divulge this information.
Edward means that the calls come from an ENCRYPTED number, miss.
You tattle-tale! I hope you short-circuit!
OKAY, GUYS, STAY COOL. WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT LATER.

"NOW I GOTTA GO."
DON'T WORRY, I HAD THE RIGHT IDEA.
NOTHING'S BETTER THAN FRIENDSHIP TO GET OVER CERTAIN PROBLEMS.
YOU'LL SEE...WILL'S SPECIAL!
NO...THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
THERE SHE IS. WILL... WILL!
I WISH MY ASTRAL DROP HAD KEPT HER MEMORIES TO HERSELF.


FINALLY! I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TALK TO YOU SINCE THIS MORNING.


THIS IS MY DEAR FRIEND MANDY.
HI!
GREAT.

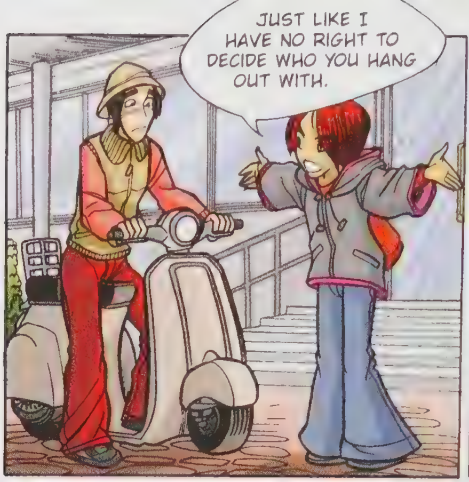
SORRY, I'M IN A HURRY. I HAVE THE SWIMMING TIME TR—
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE.


MANDY'S DOING THE TIME TRIALS TOO. YOU COULD STICK TOGETHER AND HELP EACH OTHER OUT!
"WAKE ME UP FROM THIS NIGHTMARE!"

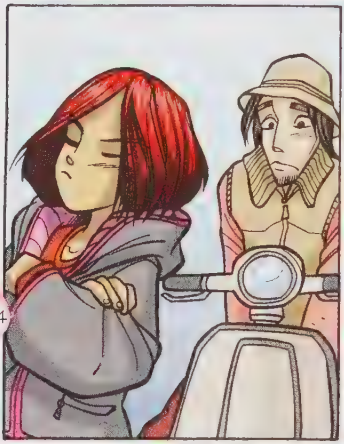
I'M GREAT AT FREESTYLE, AND YOU?
WHY? ADDING INSULT TO INJURY? I HATE HIM!

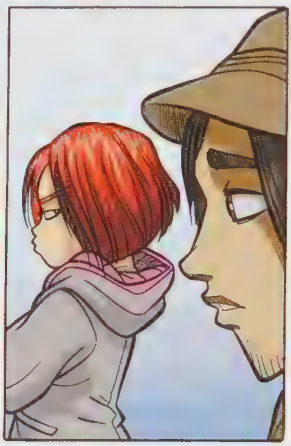
NOT ONLY IS HE FLIRTING WITH THIS GIRL, BUT HE WANTS M TO BE HER FRIEN TOO? THAT'S INSANE!

WILL! MANDY!
URGH... HI, COACH.
HI, KARL!
I DIDN'T CALL YOU TO CHEW THE FAT WITH YOUR FRIEND. TO THE POOL, NOW!
RIGHT AWAY, COACH.
EHM...BYE, MATT!
203
WILL'S ACTING FUNNY... LIKE SHE'S MAD AT ME.
...IF YOU AND MISS GREAT-AT-FREESTYLE ARE HERE TO MAKE ME LOOK BAD IN FRONT OF THE COACH, YOU MIGHT AS WELL GO HOME!
SORRY, WILL, I DIDN'T...
FIRST OF ALL...
SECOND, YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO OR WHO TO HANG OUT WITH. ARE WE CLEAR?


JUST LIKE I HAVE NO RIGHT TO DECIDE WHO YOU HANG OUT WITH.

SO KEEP GOING OUT WITH YOUR SUPERMODEL, BUT DON'T YOU SHOVE HER DOWN MY THROAT.





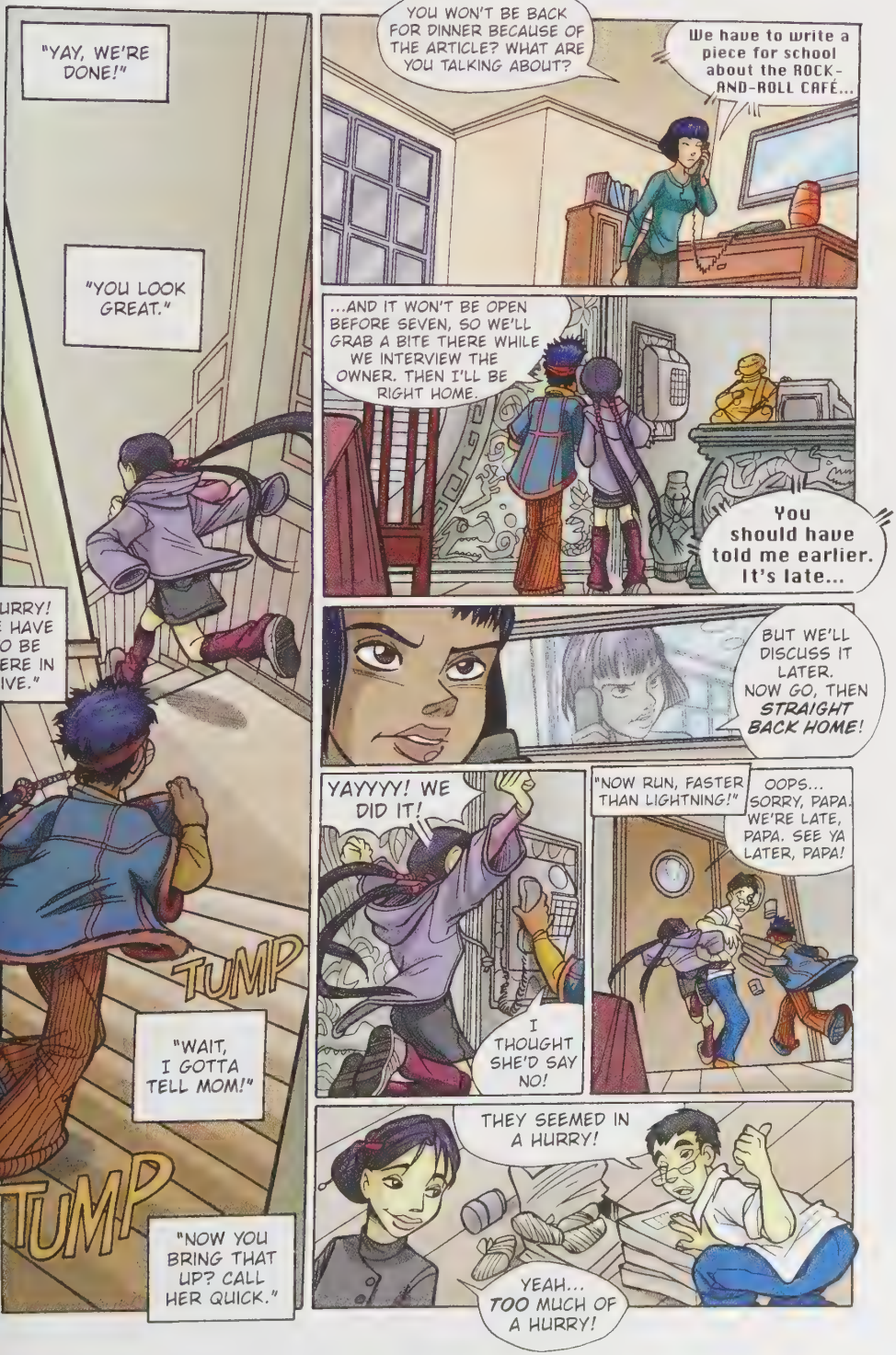
.....

THERE, HE'S GOT NOTHING TO SAY FOR HIMSELF. COWARDLY SILENCES ARE THE WORST!

WHAT DID I DO WRONG?

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MAKE THE WRONG MOVE!"
TNN LIVE
Bad weather over the whole region!
SEE? IF WE LOOKED LIKE THAT, WE'D WIN ALL THE TIME.
-:GULP:- ...ARE YOU SURE?
There's a cold weather front approaching ...
OF COURSE! IF YOU'RE GONNA BE A JOURNALIST, YOU GOTTA LOOK THE PART.
MMMH...I'M NOT CONVINCED!
SO NO MORE MAKEUP, THEN?
I DIDN'T SAY THAT.
I'M JUST SAYING WE'RE WEARING MAKEUP 'COS WE'RE GOING OUT WITH ERIC AND NIGEL, NOT FOR THE ARTICLE!
UM...LET ME THINK...
WELL, LET'S HOPE OUR TV LOOK WILL GET US THE RIGHT RESULTS!
HA-HA-HA!
And now, the latest fashion trends!
But soon, he sun will SHINE gain!

NOW HOLD STILL!
HEE-HEE! MAKE SURE YOU MATCH THE COLORS TO THE RUNES ON MY BRACES!
Let's go to our reporter at the catwalk!
A TON OF FOUN-DATION LATER ...
See? Today's woman is a queen, sweetly aggressive and frighteningly gorgeous!
?!?
WHAT D'YOU THINK?
ARE YOU NUTS?
OKAY, DON'T WORRY!
"LET ME TRY AGAIN."
"NO, SWEETIE! NOW IT'S MY TURN."


"YAY, WE'RE DONE!"
"YOU LOOK GREAT."
HURRY! E HAVE TO BE HERE IN FIVE."
TUMP
"WAIT, I GOTTA TELL MOM!"
TUMP
"NOW YOU BRING THAT UP? CALL HER QUICK."
YOU WON'T BE BACK FOR DINNER BECAUSE OF THE ARTICLE? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
We have to write a piece for school about the ROCK-AND-ROLL CAFÉ...
...AND IT WON'T BE OPEN BEFORE SEVEN, SO WE'LL GRAB A BITE THERE WHILE WE INTERVIEW THE OWNER. THEN I'LL BE RIGHT HOME.
You should have told me earlier. It's late...
BUT WE'LL DISCUSS IT LATER. NOW GO, THEN STRAIGHT BACK HOME!
YAYYYY! WE DID IT!
I THOUGHT SHE'D SAY NO!
"NOW RUN, FASTER THAN LIGHTNING!"
OOPS... SORRY, PAPA. WE'RE LATE, PAPA. SEE YA LATER, PAPA!
THEY SEEMED IN A HURRY!
YEAH... TOO MUCH OF A HURRY!

HEATHERFIELD SWIMMING POOL. THE TIME TRIALS ARE UNDERWAY...
...SO I MADE A TOTAL FOOL OF MYSELF!
HE-HE! THE FIRST TIME I TRIED WIND-SURFING WAS TRAGIC TOO.
I'LL BET...
I WAS WITH A FRIEND...
JUST SAY YOU WERE WITH MATT!
"THE SEA WAS ROUGH, SO HE HELPED ME GET ON.
"WHEN I WAS ON, I TRIED TO PULL THE SAIL UP.
MMM... FASCINATING.
"BUT A HUGE WAVE CAME...
"AND I CRASHED INTO MY FRIEND.
LAMEST TRICK EVER!
"SO I LOOKED FOR ANOTHER SPORT!"
I CAN GUESS WHICH!

WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHY DID YOU START SWIMMING?
WELL... I...UM...
DON'T FALL FOR IT. SHE'S SHY OUT HERE, BUT A SHARK IN THE POOL!
...I LIKE IT, THAT'S ALL.
I'LL WARM UP. ANYWAY, YOUR FRIEND'S COOL.
I'M AD YOU OUGHT HER.
.....
GREAT...
"FIRST MATT, NOW SHE'S STEALING MY FRIENDS TOO."
IT WAS NICE OF MATT TO INTRODUCE US.
YEAH, JUST PEACHY.
YOU'VE KNOWN HIM LONG?
FOREVER. HE HAS A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART.
I SWEAR IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM, RIGHT NOW MY LIFE WOULD BE PLAIN AWFUL.
WHY DID I ASK? BECAUSE I ENJOY TORTURING MYSELF?

"EVERYONE IN PLACE, QUICK!"
REMEMBER, ONLY ONE OF YOU WILL MAKE IT TO THE FINALS.
Only ONE?
LOOKS LIKE IT. LOSER BUYS PIZZA!
GIVE IT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT. DON'T HOLD BACK!
GET THE CASH READY!
YOU STEAL MATT, YOU ACT ALL COOL WITH MY FRIENDS, AND NOW YOU'RE NAGGING ME!
READY
SET!
ONLY ONE OF US WILL MAKE IT. AND IT WON'T BE YOU!
GO!
OOPS!
SPLASH

MANDY, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? GOT RUBBER LEGS?
3
4
THAT'S CRAZY...
MANDY CAN KEEP IT ALL... BUT THE FINAL WILL BE MINE!
THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE!
211
I HAVE TO MAKE IT. I HAVE TO!
PLASH
YAYYY!

I'LL HAVE TO BUY YOU THAT PIZZA...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
SEE? THERE SHE GOES AGAIN. A SHARK IN THE POOL, A LAMB ON DRY LAND!
WELL DONE, WILL. YOU HAD THE RIGHT ATTITUDE!
THANKS, COACH.
NO CONGRATULATIONS FOR ME? LAST PLACE AS USUAL!
HEE-HEE!
MANDY ANDERSON, I WOULDN'T LAUGH IF I WERE YOU.
HAPPY WITH YOUR PERFORMANCE?
I AM!
NO, KARL. BUT SOMETHING WEIRD HAPPENED...
MY FEET STUCK TO THE BLOCK, THEN THEY SLIPPED IT SOUNDS INCREDIBLE, BUT IT'S TRUE.
WAY LESS INCREDIBLE THAN YOU THINK!
I KNOW, I'M SORRY...
AS FOR YOU, YOU'LL TRAIN EVERY DAY. I WANT YOU IN TOP SHAPE!
NO EXCUSES. THAT BAD START COST YOU THE RACE.

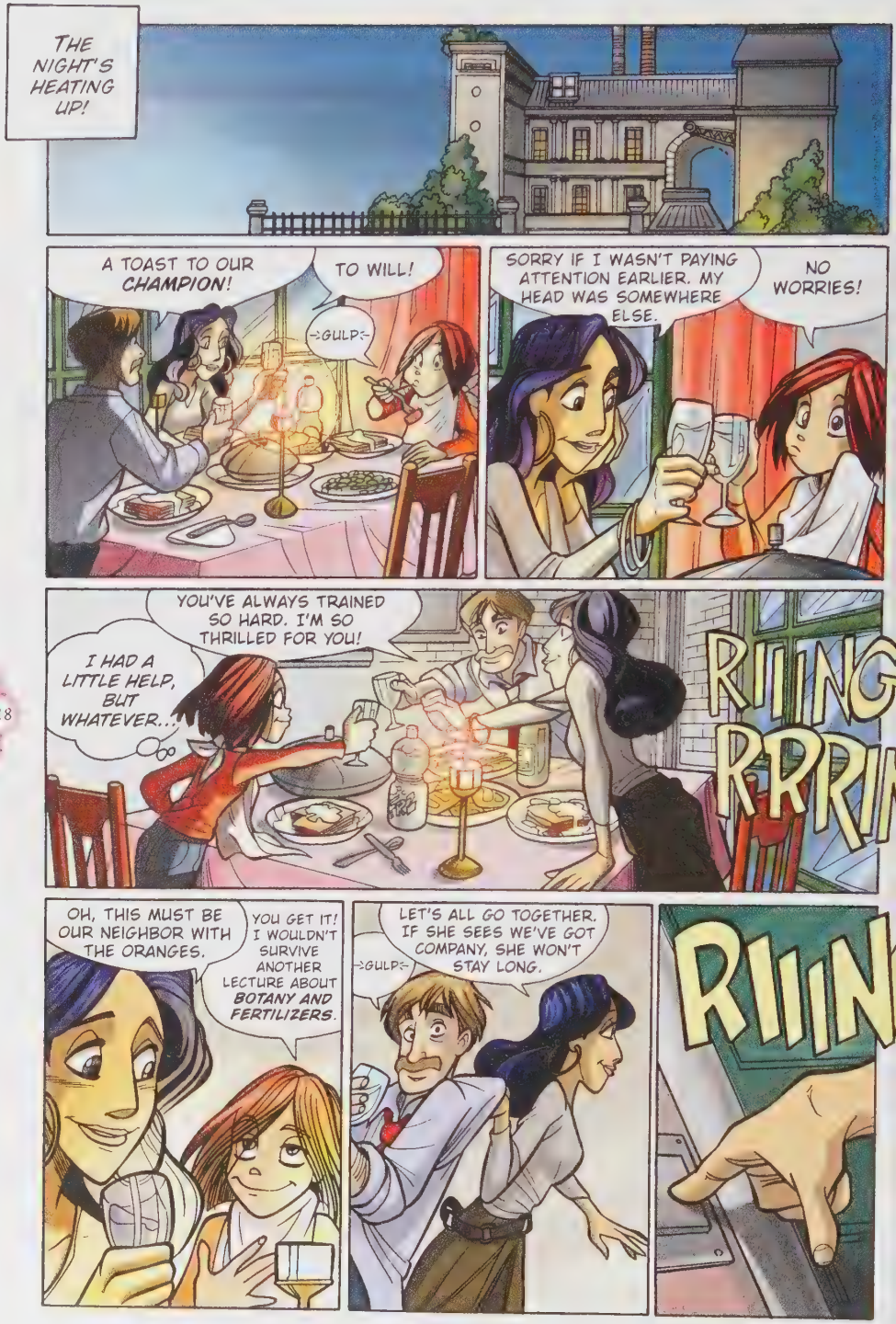
TENSIONS ARE HIGH AT THE COOK RESIDENCE TOO.
YOUR HONOR, YOU ARE GUILTY!
DON'T START.
WHAT'S UP, PETER?
SHE'S BEEN CAUGHT RED-HANDED! AFTER A HARD DAY'S WORK, SHE'S COOKING HER BELOVED SON'S FAVORITE GNOCCHI!
WHEN YOU GET ALL KISSY, YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING.
THANKS, MOM!
OH, GETTING READY FOR A BIG NIGHT!
CHANGING TOPICS... WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE ROCK-AND-ROLL CAFÉ?
WHADDAYA SAY, DAD, SHALL WE LET HER GO?
HEH HEH HEH!
I ASKED YOU A QUESTION.
I HEARD IT, YOUR HONOR. AND I HAVE THE ANSWER.

THE ROCK-AND-ROLL CAFÉ'S A COOL CLUB WHERE THE COOL CATS OF HEATHERFIELD MEET TO HANG OUT.
THEY GOT 120 KINDS OF PANINI, 112 KINDS OF FRIES, 103 DIFFERENT DRINKS, NOT TO MENTION THE AWESOME HAPPY HOURS!
ALL TOPPED OFF WITH GOOD, NO GREAT MUSIC!
OKAY, PETER, I GOT IT.
OPENING HOUR: SEVEN. CLOSED ON: TUESDAYS.
WHAAAT?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, TERRY?
...
YOUR DAUGHTER LIED! IT'S TUESDAY, AND IF THAT PLACE IS CLOSED...
MY BIG MOUTH... I'M A MORON!
...I'D REALLY LIKE TO KNOW WHERE SHE'S GONE!

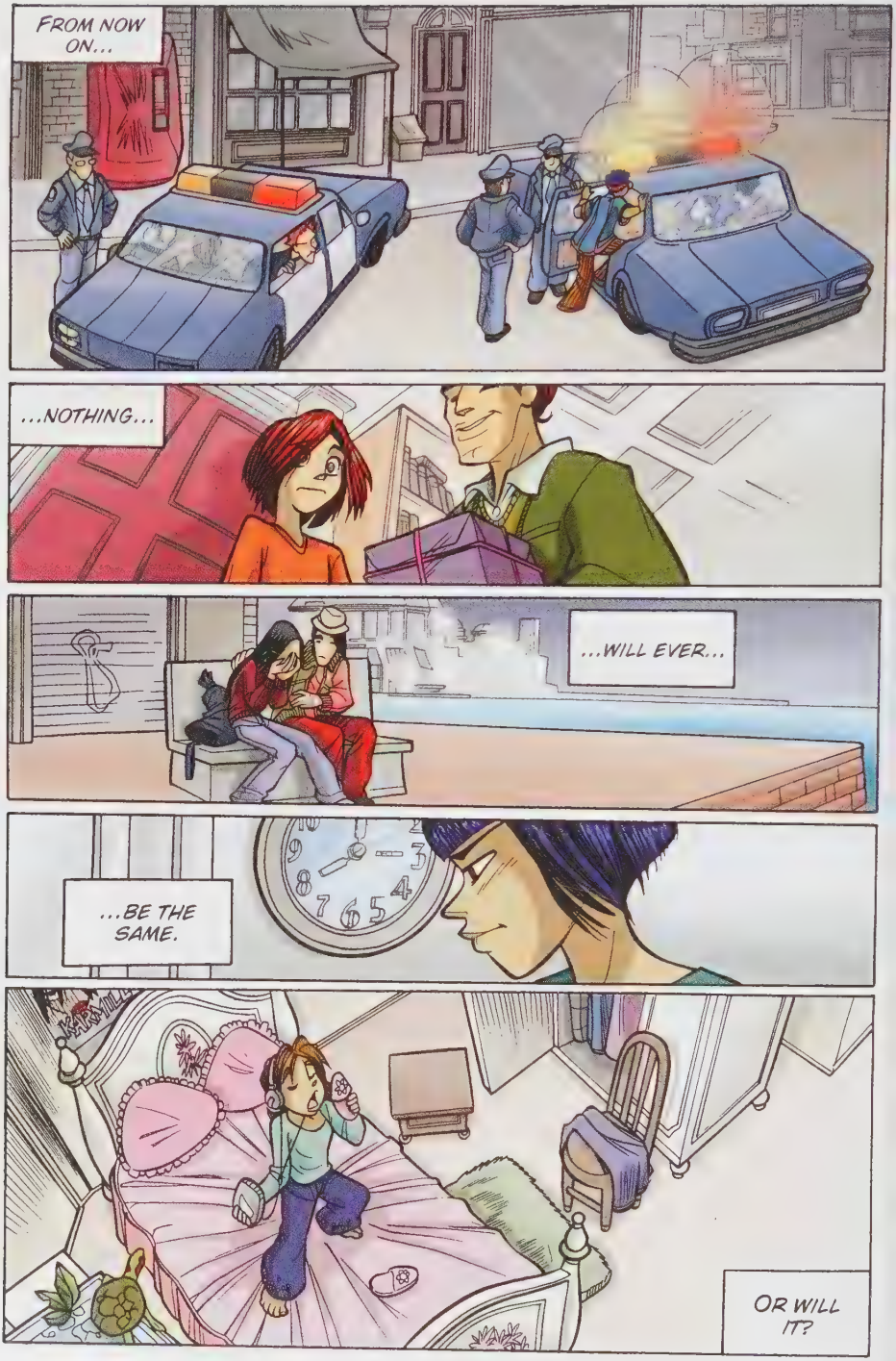
Rock and Roll Cafe
IT CAN'T BE!
WE'RE THE BEST REPORTERS EVER.
WE SHOULD HAVE LOOKED IT UP.
WHAT A DISASTER!
WE JUST HAD TO PICK THE DAY IT'S CLOSED FOR THE INTERVIEW...
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE. WE'VE GOT OUR FIRST PIECE OF INFORMATION.
WE'LL BEGIN BY TELLING PEOPLE NOT TO COME ON TUESDAYS!
GREAT START. A BIT SHORT, THOUGH.
WE NEED ANOTHER IDEA!
IF YOU CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING, DON'T PANIC. I'LL WRITE YOUR BIT TOO!
.....
ANYWAY, TOMORROW MORNING WE WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WRITE.
WRONG! LET'S TAKE A WALK, AND THE AWESOME "HEATHERFIELD BY NIGHT" ARTICLE WILL WRITE ITSELF!
YOU'RE ON FIRE!
SBRAANG
OH NO...

STUPID VENDING MACHINE! IT STOLE MY MONEY!
HEH-HEH! KICK IT! THAT'LL TEACH IT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, URIAH? STOP IT!
HELLO? POLICE?
BRANG
SBRAAANG
YOU'RE NOT MY MOM, NIGEL. DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO...
I'M NOT YOUR MOM, BUT I WAS YOUR FRIEND, AND IT SUCKS TO SEE YOU ACT LIKE AN IDIOT!
C'MON, NIGEL, IT'S NOT WORTH IT.
YOU DON'T EVEN DESERVE AN ANSWER, NIGEL. YOU'RE NOTHIN'. WALK AWAY WITH YOUR BUDDIES. YOU'RE ALL PATHETIC.
LEAVE THEM OUT OF THIS.
OH, SORRY... WAS I RUDE?
WOULDN'T WANT TO HURT OUR RESIDENT GEEK'S FEELINGS...
OR UPSET DEAR METALMOUTH OVER THERE!
WHAT'D'YA CALL HER?

TOCC
TUMP
APOLOGIZE TO HER. NOW!
YOU STAY OUT OF IT!
HEAR, HEAR. WE GOT A FEARLESS WHITE KNIGHT OVER HERE!
He's just being stupid, Hay Lin. Don't be upset.
My braces are awesome! He shouldn't say stuff like that.
I SAID: APOLOGIZE TO HER.
AND I SAID METAL-MOUTH!
TU-TUMP
YOU'RE ASKING FOR A BLACK EYE, KID!
Totally!
Now we gotta step in, though.
AIR!
UAAARGHHH!
FIRE!
OUCH! BURNS! BURNS! BURNS!
...POLICE!
WEEE WEEEEEOWEE


THE NIGHT'S HEATING UP!
A TOAST TO OUR CHAMPION!
TO WILL!
-GULP-
SORRY IF I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION EARLIER. MY HEAD WAS SOMEWHERE ELSE.
NO WORRIES!
YOU'VE ALWAYS TRAINED SO HARD. I'M SO THRILLED FOR YOU!
I HAD A LITTLE HELP, BUT WHATEVER...
RIING
RRRIN
OH, THIS MUST BE OUR NEIGHBOR WITH THE ORANGES.
YOU GET IT! I WOULDN'T SURVIVE ANOTHER LECTURE ABOUT BOTANY AND FERTILIZERS.
LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER. IF SHE SEES WE'VE GOT COMPANY, SHE WON'T STAY LONG.
-GULP-
RIIIN

ENOUGH! BE NICE!
HA-HA-HA!
PFRRR... HA-HA-HA!
SUSAN.
It can't be!
WILL...WILL, DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME?
IT'S ME, DAD. I'M BACK!
AND THIS TIME IT'S FOREVER.
!


FROM NOW ON...
...NOTHING...
...WILL EVER...
...BE THE SAME.
OR WILL IT?

Witch
Will
Irma
Taranee
Cornelia
Hay Lin

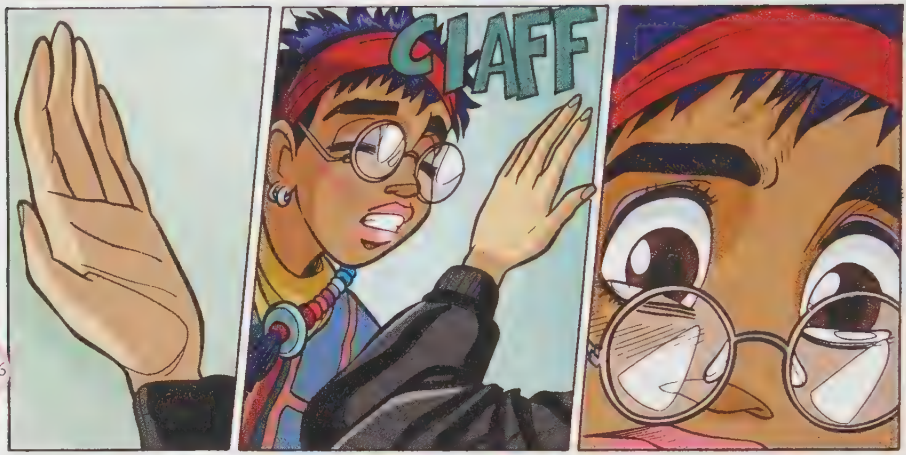
THIS IS THOMAS VANDOM. A MOMENT AGO, HE RESURFACED FROM A DISTANT PAST...
...A PAST SOME PEOPLE NEVER FORGOT...
...AND THAT FOR OTHERS IS A COMPLETE MYSTERY.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I WAS HOPING FOR A WARMER WELCOME, SUSAN. AM I INTERRUPTING?
I ASKED YOU A QUESTION, THOMAS. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US NOW?
CALM DOWN. I JUST WANT TO TALK TO YOU...AND TO WILL. I HAVE SO MUCH TO TELL YOU, TO BE FORGIVEN FOR...
HOW DARE YOU SHOW UP AFTER ALL THIS TIME? HOW DARE YOU?
PLEASE, SUSAN. BE CIVIL—THERE'S A STRANGER PRESENT.
EXCUSE ME? THE ONLY STRANGER IN THIS HOUSE IS YOU!
IT'S OKAY, SUSAN. MAYBE I SHOULD LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE...

I APPRECIATE YOUR DISCRETION. YOU KNOW...THIS IS A FAMILY REUNION!
WILL, YOU'RE ALL GROWN UP! LAST TIME I SAW YOU, YOU WERE SO LITTLE...
YOU'D HAVE SEEN HER GROW UP IF YOU HADN'T LEFT!
THIS IS FOR YOU, DARLING.
DO I HAVE TO OPEN IT?
BUT OF COURSE!
DON'T YOU DARE, WILL. I FORBID IT!
IT'S JUST A PRESENT FOR MY DAUGHTER, SUSAN...
...A SMALL, INNOCUOUS, PRESENT!

AND THINGS ARE TENSE AT THE POLICE STATION TOO.
POLICE
I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY NOW.
WHAT'S THAT LOOK? I'M TALKING TO YOU, GIRLS.
INSTEAD OF SPENDING YOUR NIGHTS GADDING ABOUT, YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT YOUR STUDIES!
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, SIR, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE WERE DOING.
GOOD-NIGHT, CAPTAIN COLETTI
STRANGE... THAT'S NOT WHAT I HEARD.
THEN YOU HEARD WRONG!
BEFORE YOU JUDGE US, HOW 'BOUT WE GET THE FACTS STRAIGHT!
YOU'D BETTER SHUT YOUR MOUTH, GIRL!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH? HOW DARE YOU?
YOU CAN GO, BOB. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.
CALM DOWN, TARANEE.
I KNOW THESE KIDS.

AS IF CAPTAIN COLETTI'S LECTURE WASN'T ANNOYING ENOUGH, EXPLAINING EVERYTHING TO IRMA'S DAD WAS VERY, VERY EMBARRASSING.
OH, HAY LIN! I WAS SO WORRIED WHEN THE POLICE CALLED!
I'M SO SORRY, MAMA. IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!
I SURE HOPE SO! LOOK AT YOU. WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE? IS THAT PAINT ON IT?
I'M NEVER WEARING MAKEUP AGAIN, I SWEAR.
MAYBE ASK FOR HELP NEXT TIME. IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO DO A BETTER JOB...
...THAN THIS...UM... LET'S JUST LEAVE IT AT BETTER JOB.
TARANEE!
OH, MAMA!
LET ME EXPLAIN!
AN ARTICLE FOR SCHOOL, HUH?

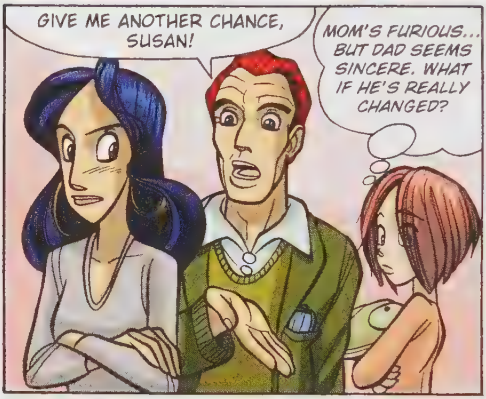
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HE WAS BEHIND IT!
I'M ASHAMED OF YOU.


CLAFF

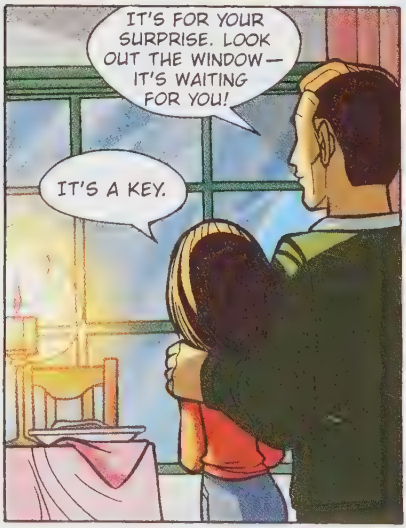
"YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT. NOT IN FRONT OF EVERYONE."
WE'RE DONE, MOM.

DO YOU LIKE IT? YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD A THING FOR FROGS.
IT'S VERY NICE, DA—
YOU CAN CALL ME THAT! I AM YOUR FATHER.
HOW ABOUT YOU CUT THE NONSENSE, THOMAS? CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'RE MAKING HER UNCOMFORTABLE? WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM HER?
SHE MIGHT NOT REMEMBER, BUT SHE KNOWS YOU MADE OUR LIVES IMPOSSIBLE FOR YEARS. OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEAR-ANCES?
OUR BANK ACCOUNTS DRAINED? THE FIGHTS? YOUR THREATS AND ANONYMOUS CALLS?
WE LEFT FADDEN HILLS TO GET AWAY FROM YOU, THOMAS.
I'VE CHANGED, SUSAN.
NO, YOU HAVEN'T. IF YOU'D BECOME A REASONABLE PERSON, YOU'D HAVE *SIGNED* THE *DIVORCE* PAPERS.
THIS MORNING, WHEN MY LAWYER SAID YOU HADN'T SIGNED, I KNEW YOU WERE UP TO SOMETHING...BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT *THIS!*

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU. AND I DON'T WANNA LOSE WILL! I LOVE HER.
YOU ONLY LOVE YOURSELF, AND I WON'T LET MY DAUGHTER SUFFER BECAUSE OF YOU.
I KNOW I'VE MADE MISTAKES HAVEN'T BEEN PERFECT HUSBA OR FATHER...BU I WANT TO MA UP FOR IT.


GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE, SUSAN!
MOM'S FURIOUS... BUT DAD SEEMS SINCERE. WHAT IF HE'S REALLY CHANGED?

I...I GOT YOU SOMETHING ELSE, WILL. HERE.
?


IT'S FOR YOUR SURPRISE. LOOK OUT THE WINDOW— IT'S WAITING FOR YOU!
IT'S A KEY.

WOW! A SCOOTER! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT'S GOT... WHEELS TOO!
HA-HA-HA! AND IF YOU TURN THE ENGINE ON, IT MOVES!

WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT?
DON'T YOU STEP OUT THAT DOOR, WILL!
I'M SERIOUS.
BUT... THAT'S NOT FAIR! CAN'T WE TALK ABOUT IT?
NOT NOW. GO TO YOUR ROOM, PLEASE.
GOOD NIGHT, DARLING... AND DON'T WORRY. I'LL TRY TO MAKE HER SEE REASON.
I'M SORRY. I REALIZE BUYING THE SCOOTER WAS IMPULSIVE. I SHOULD HAVE ASKED YOU FIRST.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, THOMAS? AFTER WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN US...
...YOU COME BACK AND EXPECT ME TO WELCOME YOU WITH OPEN ARMS?
I WANT TO MAKE UP FOR IT. THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T SIGN THOSE PAPERS.

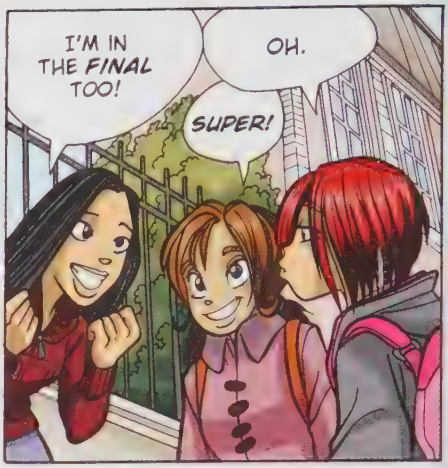
LISTEN, THOMAS. I DON'T...
DON'T ANSWER NOW. TAKE ALL THE TIME YOU NEED.
I HOPE YOU WON'T MIND IF I COME SEE WILL EVERY NOW AND THEN.
I CAN'T STOP YOU. YOU KNOW THAT.
WILL AND I HAVE SO MUCH TO TALK ABOUT...AND A LOT OF TIME TO MAKE UP FOR.
DON'T PUSH IT, THOMAS!
WILL'S A SMART GIRL, AND YOU WON'T BUY HER TRUST WITH PRESENTS.
THAT WAS JUST A WAY TO MAKE HER FORGIVE ME. FLASHY, I'LL ADMIT, BUT SINCERE.
SEE YOU SOON, SUSAN.

LATE AT NIGHT...
SORRY, I CAN'T FIND MY COSTUME.
WHAT A SHAAAME!
CAN'T YOU MAGIC ONE UP?
ASSUMING YOU CAN DO STUFF WITHOUT YOUR SPELLS.
NOOO! THAT'S NOT TRUE!
AHAH
AH
AH
MOM...
I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME HERE.
DAD, AT LEAST YOU...
TRUST ME, WILL.
TRUST ME!
AAAH!

RESTLESS NIGHTS, TENSE DAYS...
WILL'S BEEN LOST IN HER OWN DARK WORLD LATELY. SHE'S ALL WEIRD.
NOT AS BAD AS TARANEE. TODAY SHE DIDN'T WRITE ANYTHING DURING THAT TEST.
WELL...SHE'S ALLOWED TO NOT KNOW THE ANSWERS SOMETIMES.
THAT'S WHAT'S WEIRD!
SHE KNEW THE ANSWERS. SHE TOLD ME WHAT THEY WERE. BUT SHE DIDN'T WRITE THEM DOWN.
HEY, I CAN HEAR YOU.
OOPS!
IS THAT TRUE?
ABSOLUTELY.
BUT IF YOU KNEW, WHY DID YOU FLUNK THE TEST?
I WANT TO TEACH MY MOM A LESSON.
I'VE ALWAYS FOLLOWED THE RULES, ALWAYS BEEN GOOD AT SCHOOL.
BUT SHE SAID SHE'S ASHAMED OF ME.

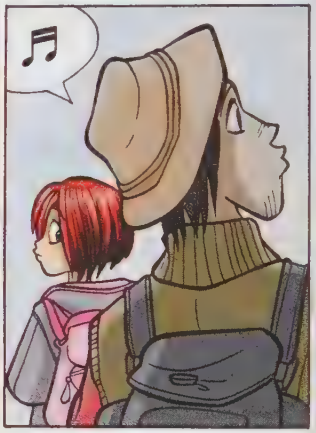
I SAW WHAT YOUR MOM DID, HAY LIN.
MINE SLAPPED ME IN PUBLIC WITHOUT LISTENING TO WHAT I HAD TO SAY.
NOW SHE'LL KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE A DAUGHTER TO BE ASHAMED OF.
YOU'RE SCARING ME. YOU DON'T USUALLY TALK THIS WAY.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
WHOSE HOMEWORK CAN I COPY IF YOU STOP STUDYING?
THINK ABOUT IT, TARANEE. YOU'RE RISKING YOUR FUTURE AND YOUR GRADES...
YOU LIKE DOING WELL AT SCHOOL. DON'T RUIN EVERYTHING TO BE PETTY.
CORNELIA'S RIGHT.
YOU GANGING UP ON ME? WELL, THAT'S WHAT I FEEL LIKE DOING.
HEY, WILL!
OOF. NOT HER AGAIN.
GREAT NEWS. GREAT NEWS!

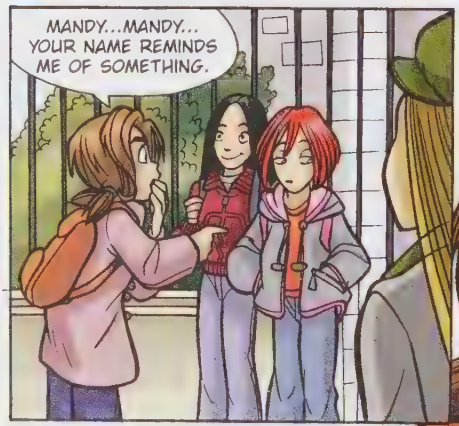
HI, MANDY.
I'M IN! KARL CHECKED EVERYONE'S TIME, AND I WAS THE *FASTEST LOSER*.


I'M IN THE *FINAL* TOO!
OH.
SUPER!

WHERE WILL YOU TRAIN?
AT *YOUR POOL*. I ASKED KARL AND HE'S COOL WITH IT.

WE'LL TRAIN *TOGETHER* EVERY DAY.

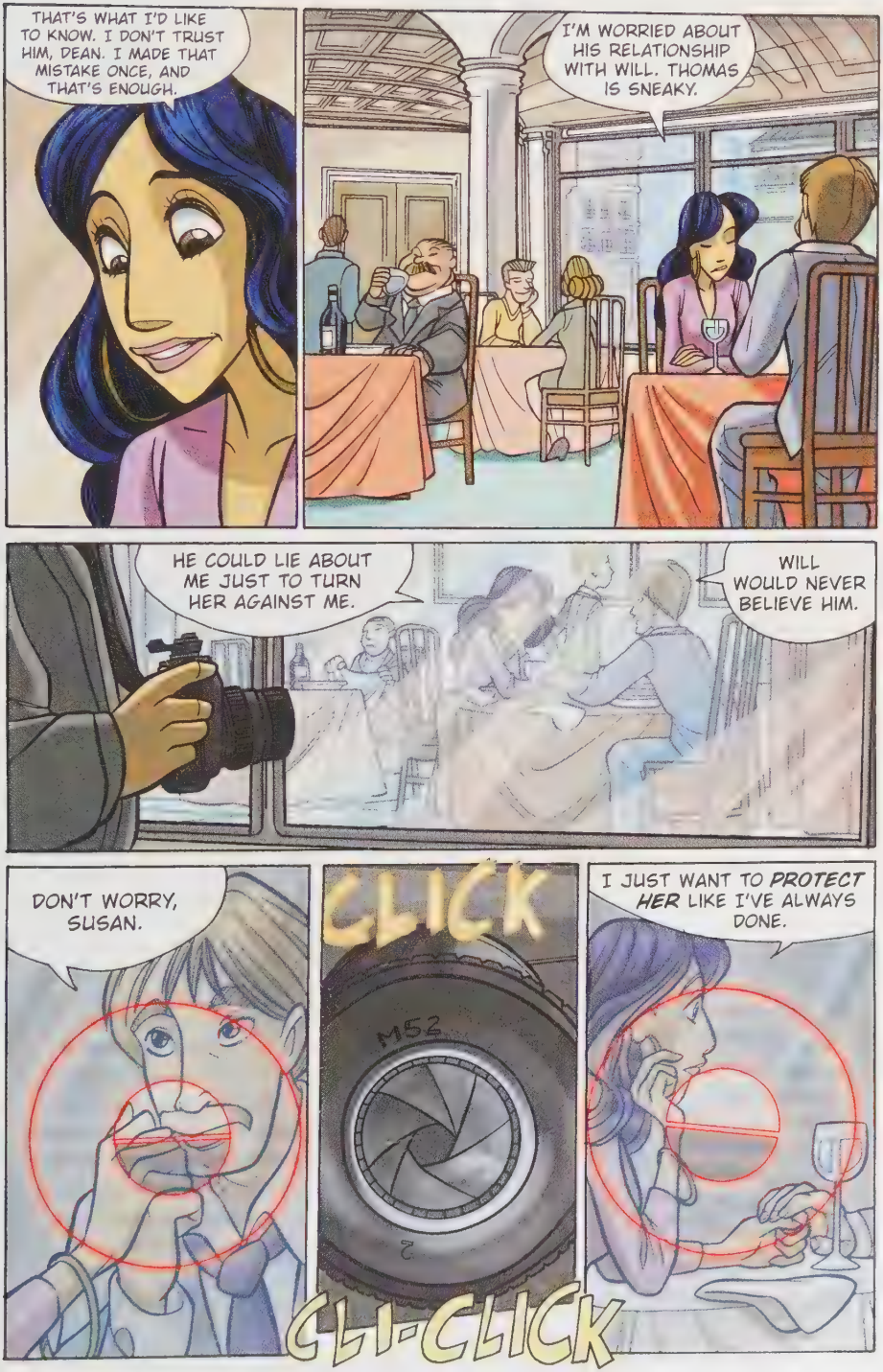



MANDY...MANDY... YOUR NAME REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING.

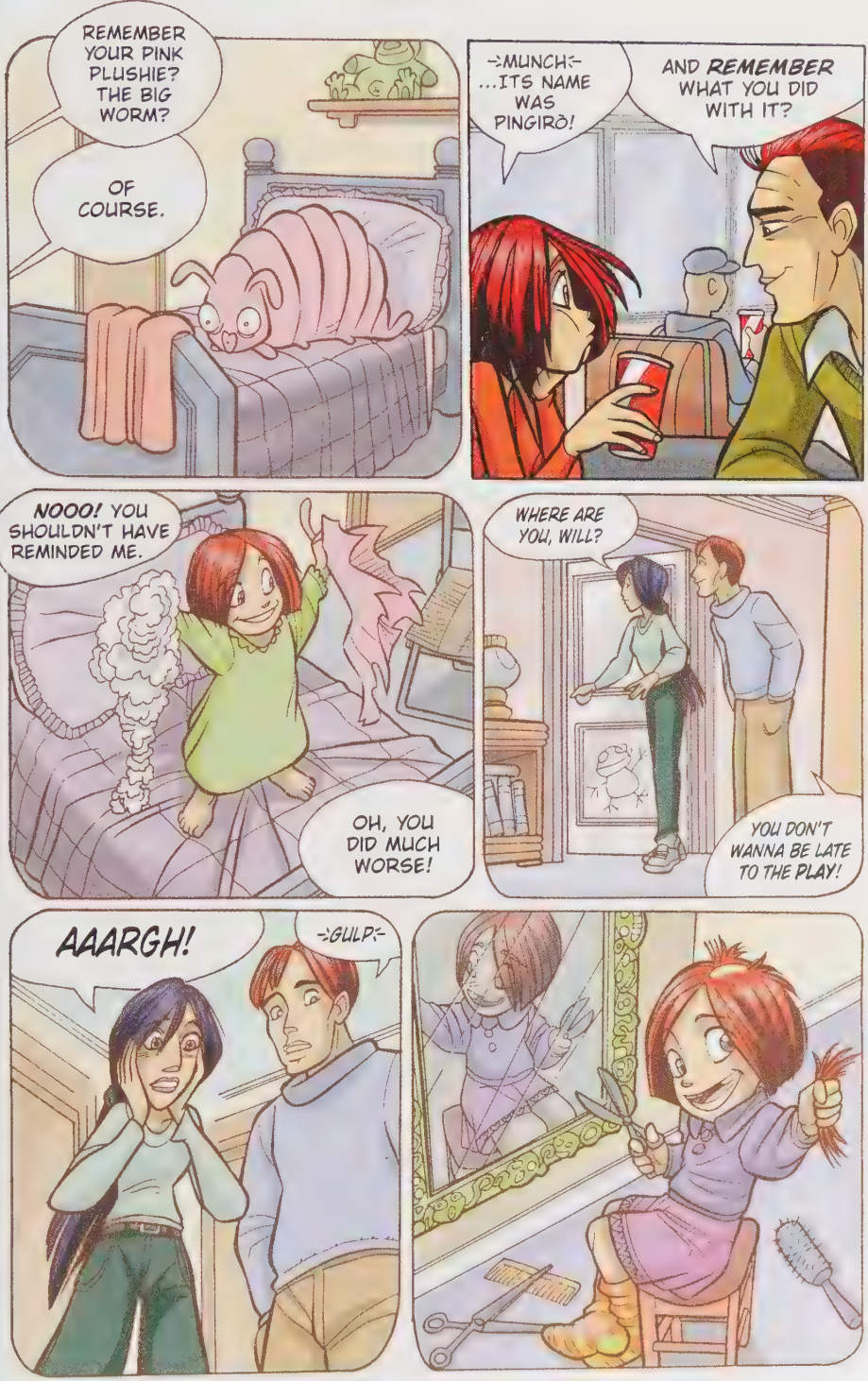
OF COURSE *COBAL BLUE'S SONG*!

MANDY, SWEET AS A CANDY, YOU'RE MY FIRST LOVE, AND YOU LIFT ME ABOVE...
YOU GOT ME... THAT MANDY'S ME!
WOW!
TUMP
What's with you?
Engage your brain occasionally...
HEY, LOOK!
P
SCREEEK
WHO'S THE GUY IN THAT SUPER CABRIO?

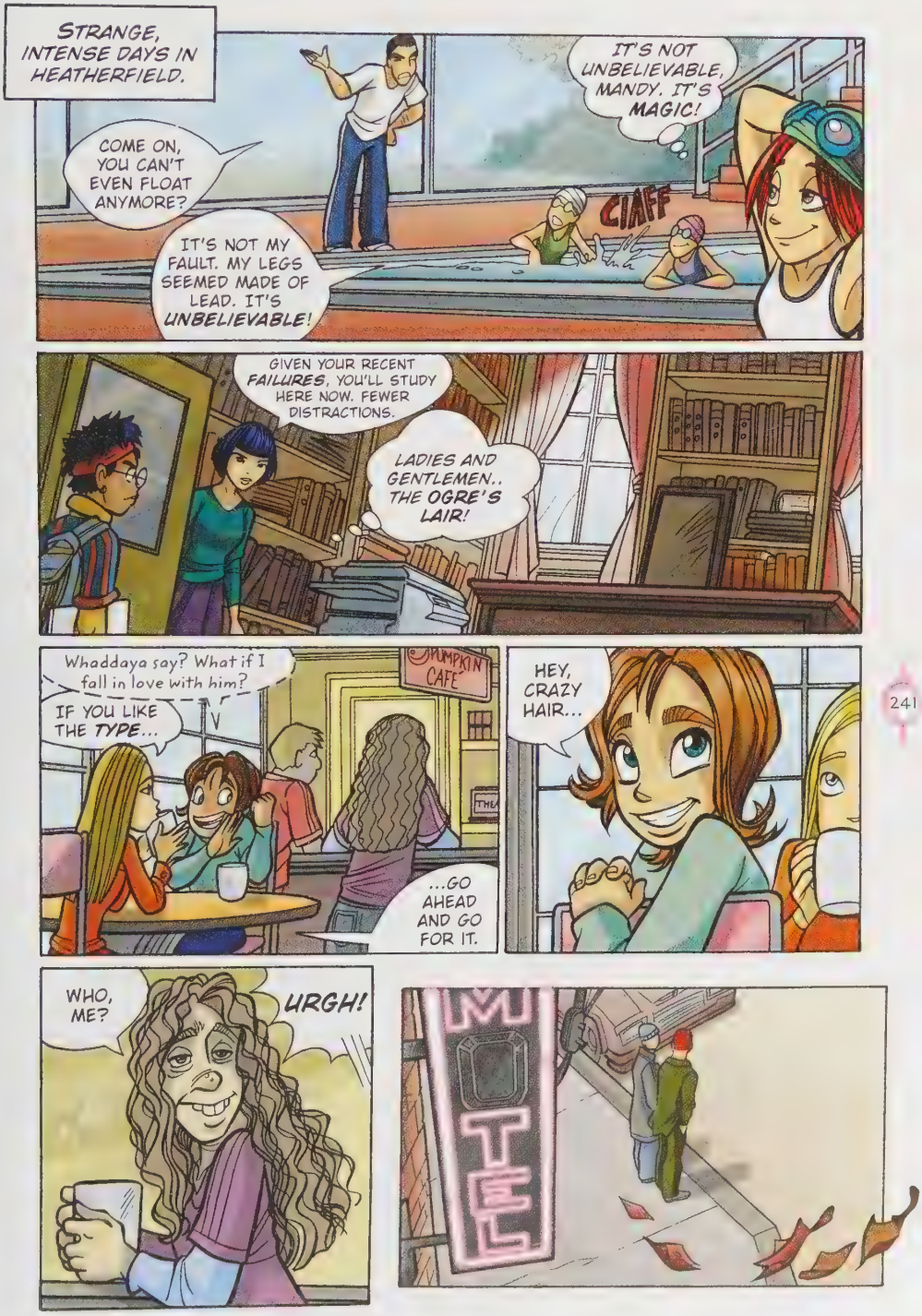
THAT'S MY FATHER, IRMA.
URGHHH...
SHE'S SO LUCKY...
YOU NEVER TOLD US ABOUT HIM.
DID YOU KNOW?
NOPE!
Jerry's
VROOOM
I'M NOT SURE LETTING HIM SEE HER IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.
YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISION.
BUT YOU STILL HAVEN'T TOLD ME WHY YOUR HUSBAND'S BACK...


THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW. I DON'T TRUST HIM, DEAN. I MADE THAT MISTAKE ONCE, AND THAT'S ENOUGH.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH WILL. THOMAS IS SNEAKY.
HE COULD LIE ABOUT ME JUST TO TURN HER AGAINST ME.
WILL WOULD NEVER BELIEVE HIM.
DON'T WORRY, SUSAN.
CLICK
M52
I JUST WANT TO *PROTECT HER* LIKE I'VE ALWAYS DONE.
CLI-CLICK

"THE LAST THING I WANT IS TO LEAVE HEATHERFIELD LIKE I LEFT FADDEN HILLS."
HE-HE-HE! YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M GLAD YOUR MOM ALLOWED YOU TO SEE ME.
ME TOO.
I ONLY JUST MET YOU AGAIN, BUT I CAN ALREADY TELL YOU'RE SPECIAL.
"YOU ALWAYS WERE. I REMEMBER..."
DAD, WHAT'S THAT?
THE MOON!
DO YOU LIKE IT?
NO! TURN IT OFF!
HA-HA-HA! I DIDN'T REMEMBER THAT!
IT'S THE TRUTH! JUST ASK YOUR MOM.
YOU WERE ALWAYS GOOD AT EXPLORING

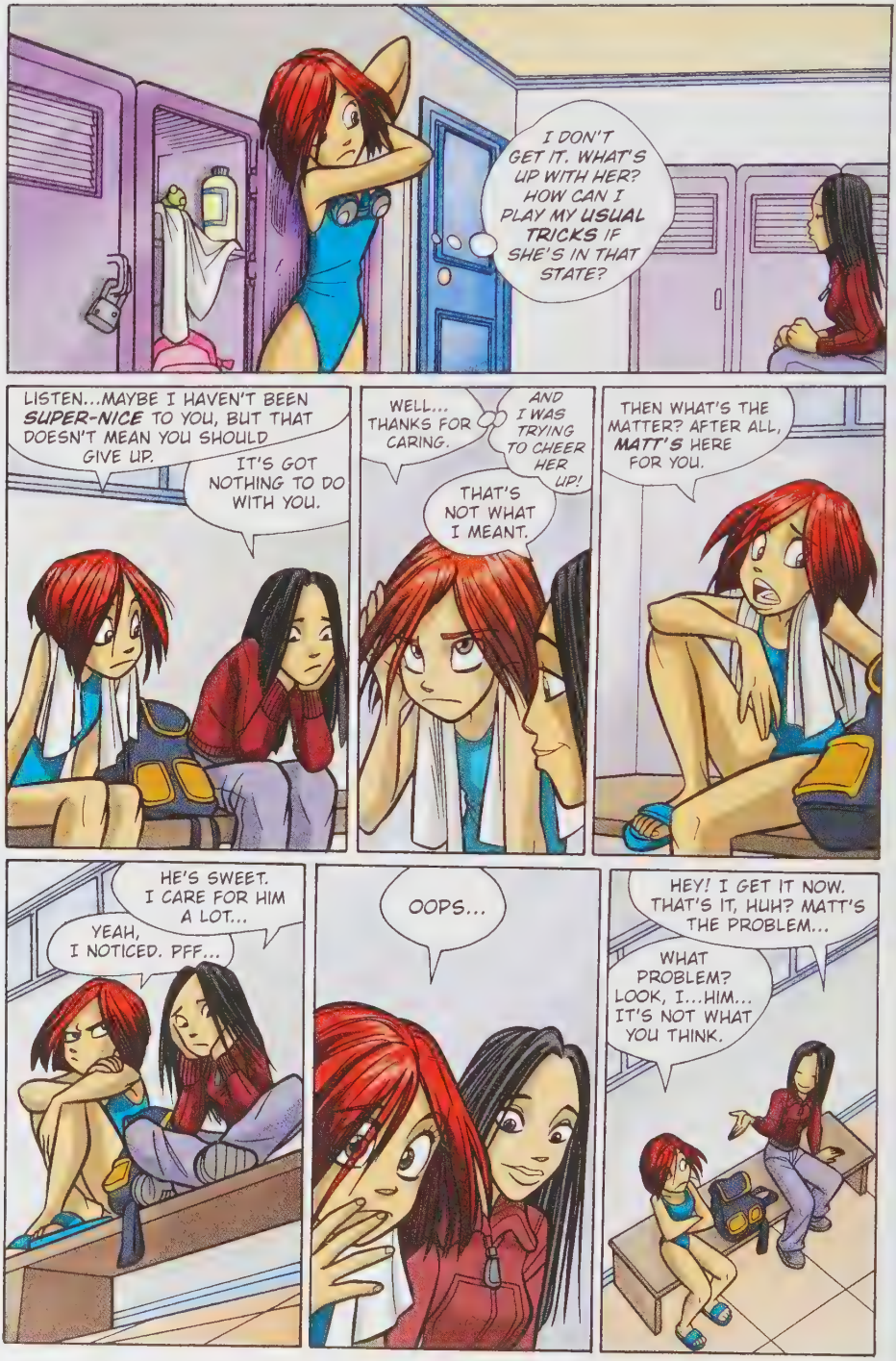

REMEMBER YOUR PINK PLUSHIE? THE BIG WORM?
OF COURSE.
-:MUNCH:- ...ITS NAME WAS PINGIRÒ!
AND REMEMBER WHAT YOU DID WITH IT?
NOOO! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE REMINDED ME.
OH, YOU DID MUCH WORSE!
WHERE ARE YOU, WILL?
YOU DON'T WANNA BE LATE TO THE PLAY!
AAARGH!
-:GULP:-

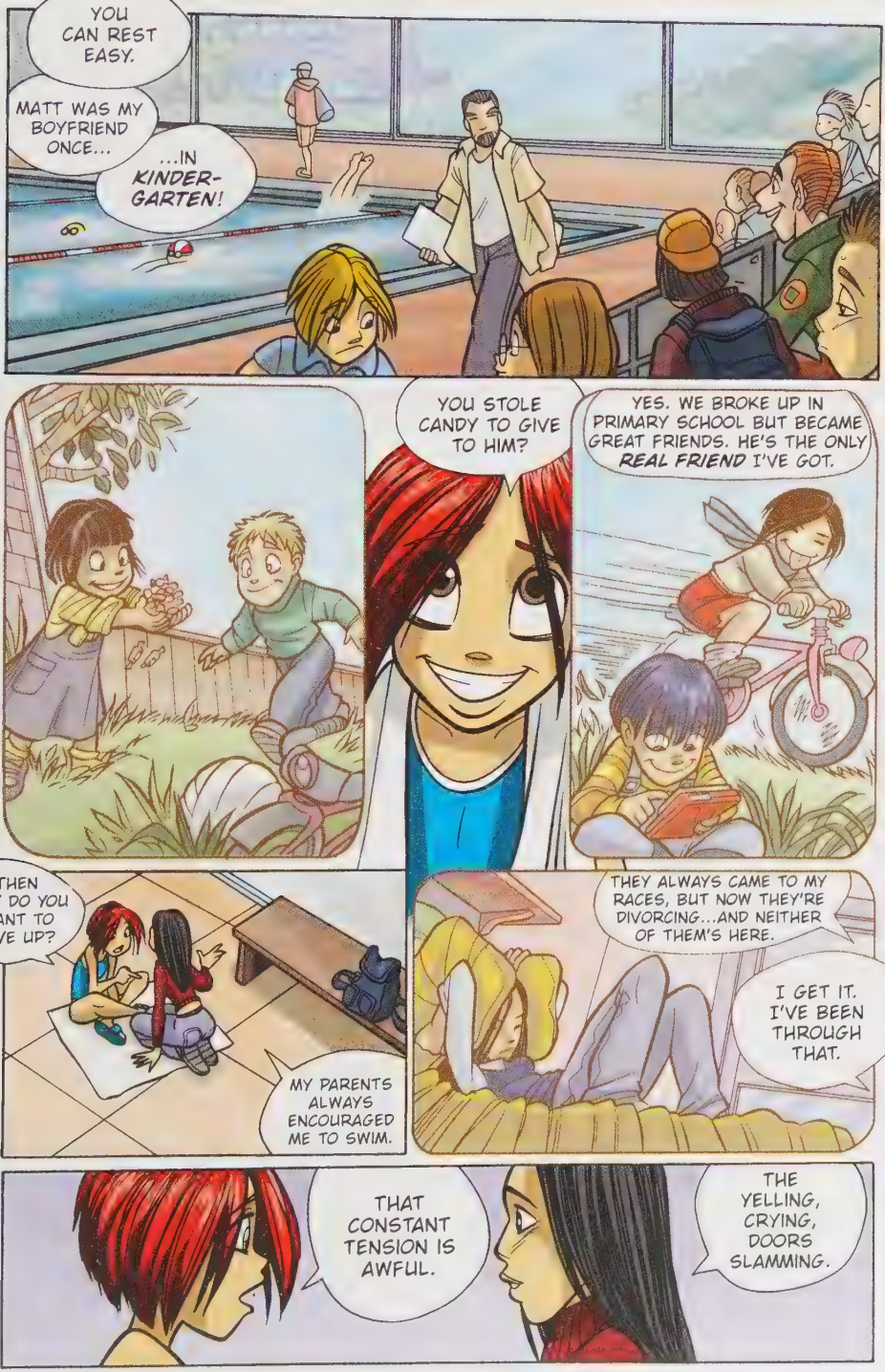
JOY'S
HA-HA-HA! HAPPY DAYS!
SOON WE HAVE MO I SWEA
AND SINCE RIDING THE SCOOTER'S BEEN FORBIDDEN BY THE AUTHORITIES, I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE POOL.
HEE-HEE! IF MOM COULD HEAR YOU...
MAY I?
YOU MAY!
IT'S AWESOME!
VROOOM VROOOM
HE'S NOT LIKE I REMEMBERED.
WHATEVER. I LIKE HIM!

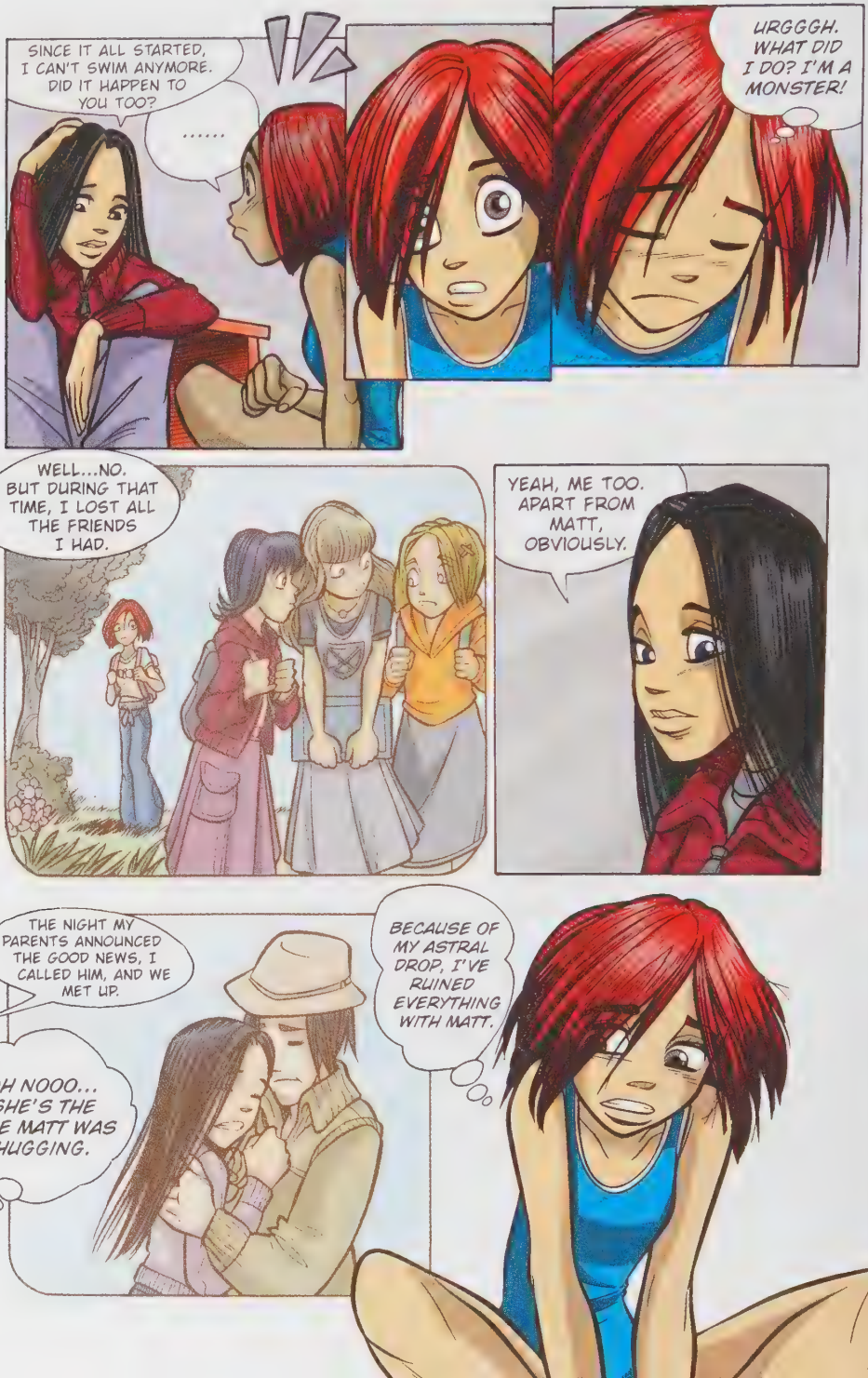

STRANGE, INTENSE DAYS IN HEATHERFIELD.
COME ON, YOU CAN'T EVEN FLOAT ANYMORE?
IT'S NOT MY FAULT. MY LEGS SEEMED MADE OF LEAD. IT'S UNBELIEVABLE!
IT'S NOT UNBELIEVABLE, MANDY. IT'S MAGIC!
CIAFF
GIVEN YOUR RECENT FAILURES, YOU'LL STUDY HERE NOW. FEWER DISTRACTIONS.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.. THE OGRE'S LAIR!
Whaddaya say? What if I fall in love with him?
IF YOU LIKE THE TYPE...
...GO AHEAD AND GO FOR IT.
PUMPKIN CAFE
HEY, CRAZY HAIR...
WHO, ME?
URGH!
MOTEL

BUT...
I GOT A ROOM IN A MOTEL IN TOWN. I WANNA BE CLOSE TO WILL...
...AND TO YOU.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
TLAC
HERE'S WHAT I THINK!
SUSAN... I JUST WANT MY FAMILY BACK!
TOC
LEAVING AND COMING BACK...THAT'S WHAT YOU ALWAYS DO. BUT WE'RE DONE.
BE CAREFUL, SUSAN...
OOF. HERE THEY GO AGAIN...
...YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T PROVOKE ME.
DON'T YOU THREATEN ME! IF YOU TOUCH ME OR WILL, YOU'LL SUFFER!
WE'LL SEE, SUSAN...WE'LL SEE WHO SUFFERS.

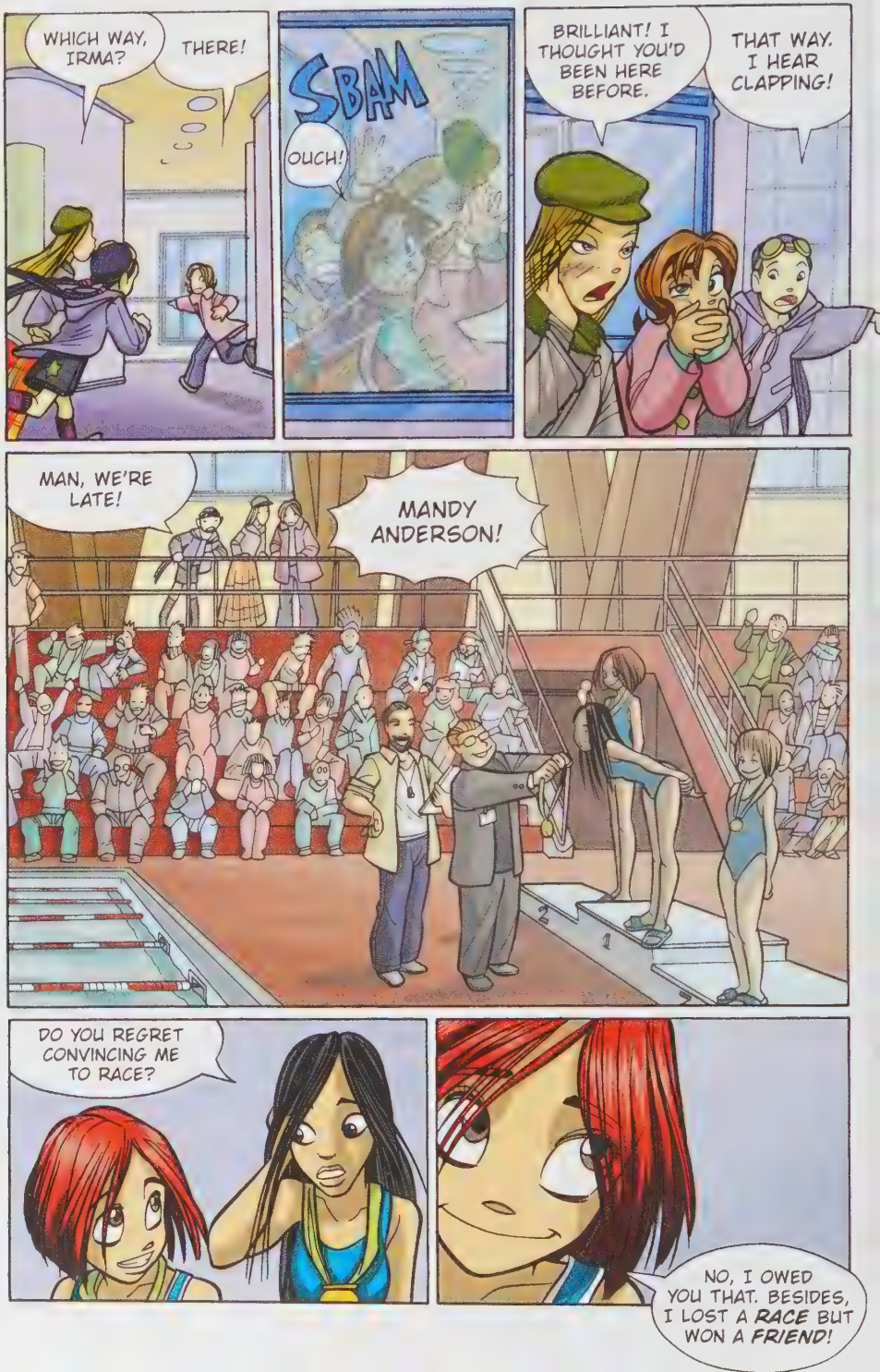
THE HEATHERFIELD SWIMMING FINALS.
Hey, Mandy...
LOOK, THERE'S MATT.
YEAH.
GO, WILL! YOU ROCK!
HEY, ISN'T THAT...?
YEP, MY FATHER. IT'S A BIT EMBARRASSING, BUT...
IT'S NOT EMBARRASSING. IT'S SWEET HE'S HERE FOR YOU.
TELL KARL I'M SCRATCHING. I'VE BEEN A DISASTER LATELY ANYWAY...
I'M NOT TELLING KARL ANYTHING. IF THAT'S YOUR DECISION, YOU TELL HIM.


I DON'T GET IT. WHAT'S UP WITH HER? HOW CAN I PLAY MY USUAL TRICKS IF SHE'S IN THAT STATE?
LISTEN...MAYBE I HAVEN'T BEEN SUPER-NICE TO YOU, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULD GIVE UP.
IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
WELL... THANKS FOR CARING.
AND I WAS TRYING TO CHEER HER UP!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
THEN WHAT'S THE MATTER? AFTER ALL, MATT'S HERE FOR YOU.
HE'S SWEET. I CARE FOR HIM A LOT...
YEAH, I NOTICED. PFF...
OOPS...
HEY! I GET IT NOW. THAT'S IT, HUH? MATT'S THE PROBLEM...
WHAT PROBLEM? LOOK, I...HIM... IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK.


YOU CAN REST EASY.
MATT WAS MY BOYFRIEND ONCE...
...IN KINDER-GARTEN!
YOU STOLE CANDY TO GIVE TO HIM?
YES. WE BROKE UP IN PRIMARY SCHOOL BUT BECAME GREAT FRIENDS. HE'S THE ONLY REAL FRIEND I'VE GOT.
THEN WHY DO YOU WANT TO GIVE UP?
MY PARENTS ALWAYS ENCOURAGED ME TO SWIM.
THEY ALWAYS CAME TO MY RACES, BUT NOW THEY'RE DIVORCING...AND NEITHER OF THEM'S HERE.
I GET IT. I'VE BEEN THROUGH THAT.
THAT CONSTANT TENSION IS AWFUL.
THE YELLING, CRYING, DOORS SLAMMING.


SINCE IT ALL STARTED, I CAN'T SWIM ANYMORE. DID IT HAPPEN TO YOU TOO?
.....
URGGGH. WHAT DID I DO? I'M A MONSTER!
WELL...NO. BUT DURING THAT TIME, I LOST ALL THE FRIENDS I HAD.
YEAH, ME TOO. APART FROM MATT, OBVIOUSLY.
THE NIGHT MY PARENTS ANNOUNCED THE GOOD NEWS, I CALLED HIM, AND WE MET UP.
OH NOOO... SHE'S THE ONE MATT WAS HUGGING.
BECAUSE OF MY ASTRAL DROP, I'VE RUINED EVERYTHING WITH MATT.

LISTEN...WOULD YOU DO ME A HUGE FAVOR?
SURE.
GET OUT THERE AND SWIM!
PLEASE SAY YES. I CAN'T EXPLAIN RIGHT NOW.
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?
ARE YOU COMING, OR SHALL I BRING YOU TEA AND COOKIES?
YOUR COMPETITORS ARE ALREADY IN THE WATER!
HURRY! WE'RE GONNA MISS THE RACE!


WHICH WAY, IRMA?
THERE!
SBAM
OUCH!
BRILLIANT! I THOUGHT YOU'D BEEN HERE BEFORE.
THAT WAY. I HEAR CLAPPING!
MAN, WE'RE LATE!
MANDY ANDERSON!
DO YOU REGRET CONVINCING ME TO RACE?
NO, I OWED YOU THAT. BESIDES, I LOST A RACE BUT WON A FRIEND!

MEANWHILE, IN THE OFFICE OF JUDGE THERESA COOK...
I'M BOOOOOORED!
OOPS!
TUMP
FINALLY, SOME EXCITEM— HEY! WHAT'S THIS?
VANDOM VS. VANDOM
"...AS AN UNFIT MOTHER AND WIFE..." IT'S ABOUT MRS. VANDOM. THAT'S WILL'S MOM!
VANDOM
"...I THEREFORE REQUIRE SOLE CUSTODY OF THE AFOREMENTIONED WILLELMINA VANDOM. SIGNED: THOMAS.."

"I'VE GOT TO TELL WILL. I'VE GOT TO SHOW HER!"
COULD YOU GO ANY SLOWER?
C'MON!
BZZZZ
BZZZ
FINALLY!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
URGH...
EHM...TO WILL'S. I FORGOT...
I DIDN'T GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO GO OUT.
JUST TRY AND STOP ME.
SORRY, MOM, BUT THIS IS TOO IMPORTANT.
THE END

Read on in Volume 7!

The world of... Cornelia

Medal

Despite the many trophies and ribbons she won when she used to take part in ice-skating competitions, Cornelia is really attached to the very first award she ever received: a third place medal that made her cry tears of joy!

Perfumes

They give Cornelia that classy touch that makes all the difference. She likes perfumes that remind her of the earth—such as sandalwood or patchouli—as long as they're 100% natural.

Slippers

They're made of fleece and are soft and warm. She always keeps them by the bed because she hates walking barefoot when she gets up in the morning. Her bedroom's marble floor is always cold!

Balcony

It's Cornelia's secret hideout. When she wants to think, she sits in a corner and watches the people in the park below, wondering about their lives.

Plush Toys

They reveal Cornelia's cuddly side—she does have one!—and she always keeps them clean and tidy. They cause a lot of bickering with Lilian, who often sneaks into her sister's room to play with them.

Cornelia Hale's Style

Like her cat, Napoleon, she loves sleeping curled up on her side. It takes an explosion to wake her up in the morning, and for the next 15 minutes, she can barely even say "good morning." Lilian used to share Cornelia's room but has her own now, so the spare bed is for guests.

The world of... Hay Lin

Painting

The watercolor hanging in Hay Lin's room was created by her great-great-grandfather, who traveled around China looking for fascinating landscapes to paint. Among the ancestors of the Lin family are two artists and a poet. Our witch is very proud of her roots, and her dream is to become a painter, to renew the family's artistic tradition.

Screen

This screen is not just to shield Hay Lin when she changes clothes. It also hides a secret that you'll discover in an upcoming chapter of *W.I.T.C.H.*

Motto
Hay Lin wrote a motto on these parchments that she reads every morning when she wakes up: "Your smile is the source of a happy life."
Hay Lin's Style
What lies beyond the stars? Hay Lin has wondered about that since she was a child, and now she's looking for an answer in science fiction stories. She believes we're not alone in the universe—that someone's watching us—and she hopes one day to meet a UFO pilot (maybe handsome and clever) to run away with to another galaxy. In the meantime, she's content with watching E.T.
Wooden Slippers
They're traditional Chinese slippers, and Hay Lin wears them at home because she likes to feel the smooth, polished wood under her feet. She also believes it's a way to keep in touch with nature.

Part II. Nerissa's Revenge • Volume 3

Series Created by Elisabetta Gnone
Comic Art Direction: Alessandro Barbucci, Barbara Canepa

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

W.I.T.C.H.: The Graphic Novel, Part II: Nerissa's Revenge
© Disney Enterprises, Inc.

English translation © 2018 by Disney Enterprises, Inc.

Yen Press, LLC supports the right to free expression and the value of copyright. The purpose of copyright is to encourage writers and artists to produce the creative works that enrich our culture.

The scanning, uploading, and distribution of this book without permission is a theft of the author's intellectual property. If you would like permission to use material from the book (other than for review purposes), please contact the publisher. Thank you for your support of the author's rights.

JY
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10104

Visit us at yenpress.com
facebook.com/yenpress
twitter.com/yenpress
yenpress.tumblr.com
instagram.com/yenpress

First JY Edition: January 2018

JY is an imprint of Yen Press, LLC.
The JY name and logo are trademarks of Yen Press, LLC.

The publisher is not responsible for websites (or their content) that are not owned by the publisher.

Library of Congress Control Number: 2017950917

ISBNs:
978-0-316-47707-9 (paperback)
978-0-316-41514-9 (ebook)

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

LSC-C

Printed in the United States of America

Cover Art by Daniela Vetro
Colors by Andrea Cagol

Translation by by Linda Ghio and Stephanie Dagg at Editing Zone
Lettering by Katie Blakeslee

UNDER THE SHADOW SIGN

Concept and Script by Giulia Conti and Francesco Artibani
Layout and Pencils by Federico Bertolucci
Inks by Marina Baggio and Roberta Zanotta
Color and Light Direction by Francesco Legramandi
Title Page Art by Federico Bertolucci

THE BROKEN HEART

Concept and Script by Bruno Enna
Layout and Pencils by Alessia Martusciello
Inks by Marina Baggio, Roberta Zanotta, and Santa Zangari
Color and Light Direction by Francesco Legramandi
Title Page Art by Alessia Martusciello
with Colors by Marco Colletti

GOOD-BYE!

Concept and Script by Francesco Artibani
Layout and Pencils by Manuela Razzi and Gianluca Panniello
Inks by Marina Baggio and Roberta Zanotta
Color and Light Direction by Francesco Legramandi
Title Page Art by Gianluca Panniello
with Colors by Marco Colletti

TRUST ME

Concept and Script by Paola Mulazzi
Layout and Pencils by Graziano Barbaro
Inks by Marina Baggio and Roberta Zanotta
Color and Light Direction by Francesco Legramandi
Title Page Art by Graziano Barbaro
with Colors by Marco Colletti

US $11.00 CAN $14.50
ISBN 978-0-316-47707-9
51100 >
EAN
9 780316 477079

ALL AGES A

JY

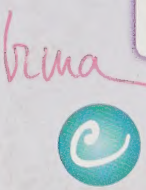
Follow us on

or at yenpress.com

Walla Walla Public Library
3 4388 10594518 1

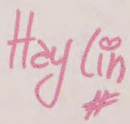
Irma

Will



A Guardian Scorned

Nerissa has the Heart of Kandrakar, and all of Kandrakar is at her mercy! The W.I.T.C.H. girls must face her again, but are they prepared for the sacrifices required for victory...? Will Nerissa finally have her revenge?



Taranee

Cornelia

Hay Lin

©2018 Disney